

Weekly Compilation of
**Presidential
Documents**



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Editor's Note: In order to meet publication and distribution deadlines during the Veterans Day holiday weekend, the cutoff time for this issue has been advanced to 5 p.m. on Thursday, November 10, 2005. Documents released after that time will appear in the next issue.

WEEKLY COMPILATION OF

PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS

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Week Ending Friday, November 11, 2005

The President's Radio Address

November 5, 2005

Good morning. This week I was proud to nominate Judge Sam Alito to be an Associate Justice on the Supreme Court of the United States. Judge Alito is one of America's most accomplished and respected judges. During his long career in public service, he has demonstrated all the qualities that the American people expect in a Supreme Court Justice, mastery of the law, a deep commitment to justice, and great personal character. He is scholarly, fair-minded, and principled, and these traits will serve our Nation well on our highest Court.

Judge Alito now serves on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. When he was nominated to his current seat in 1990, Judge Alito received strong bipartisan support, and the United States Senate confirmed him by unanimous consent. He has served on that court with distinction for 15 years and now has more prior judicial experience than any Supreme Court nominee in more than 70 years.

During his career on the bench, Judge Alito has participated in thousands of appeals and authored hundreds of opinions. He has demonstrated that he understands the proper role of a judge, to interpret the Constitution and laws, not to impose the judge's own preferences or priorities on the people. And in the performance of his duties, Judge Alito's brilliance, his modesty, and his even demeanor have gained him the respect of his colleagues and of the attorneys appearing before him.

Prior to becoming a judge, Sam Alito served for 3 years as the United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey. When President Reagan nominated him to this position in 1987, the Senate confirmed him by unanimous consent. As the top prosecutor in one of the Nation's largest Federal districts, Sam Alito moved aggressively against white-

collar and environmental crimes, drug trafficking, organized crime, and violations of civil rights. He showed a passionate commitment to the rule of law, and he gained a reputation for being both tough and fair.

Before becoming U.S. Attorney, Sam Alito served in other critical positions in the Department of Justice. In the Office of Legal Counsel, he provided constitutional advice for the President and the executive branch. As Assistant to the Solicitor General, he argued 12 cases before the Supreme Court. As an Assistant U.S. Attorney, he argued dozens of cases before the Federal courts of appeals.

The son of an Italian immigrant who came to America in 1914, Sam Alito is a product of New Jersey public schools. He was valedictorian and student council president at Hamilton East-Steinert High School in Hamilton, New Jersey. He went on to become a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Princeton University. He attended Yale Law School and was editor of the Yale Law Journal. After graduating from law school, he was a law clerk for a Federal court of appeals judge. He has served in the Army Reserves, where he achieved the rank of captain. Sam Alito's life has been marked by consistent excellence and achievement, combined with personal decency and a commitment to public service.

The United States Senate will now exercise its constitutional responsibility to advise and consent on Judge Alito's nomination. The process is off to a good start. Since I announced his nomination, Judge Alito has met with many Senators, and they are learning more about his great character, accomplishments, and ability.

Our Nation is fortunate to have a man of Judge Alito's intellect and integrity willing to serve. I look forward to the Senate voting to confirm Judge Alito as the 110th Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 10:45 a.m. on November 2 in the Cabinet Room at the White

House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on November 5. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 4 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

Remarks in a Discussion With Young Leaders in Brasilia, Brazil

November 6, 2005

U.S. Ambassador to Brazil John J. Danilovich. Mr. President, Secretary Rice, fellow Brazilians, I'd like to thank you all for being here this morning. It's a pleasure for us to welcome you here on this beautiful Sunday morning in Brasilia.

Brazil is a land of promise, of enormous potential, and of great possibilities. And the promise, potential, and possibilities of Brazil are perhaps no more visible than in yourselves. I want to thank you for the opportunity of the President and the Secretary, of meeting with you today. To a large extent, the future of your country lies in your hands, and the President looks forward to discussing things of relevance to Brazil and the United States and our important bilateral relationship. And with that being said—

The President. John, let me say something—the Ambassador is trying to cull me out of the conversation early on. [*Laughter*] Listen, thank you for coming. First, I'm here because I want to send a very clear signal to the people of Brazil that the relationship between America and Brazil is an important relationship, that Brazil is a friend, and that Brazil has got an important part of working with America to bring prosperity to not only our own citizens but to help others as well and by doing so, kind of lay the—lay conditions for a peaceful continent.

It's in our interests that our neighborhood be a prosperous neighborhood. It's in our interests that we work with the largest country in the neighborhood. And so I come to not only discuss philosophy and points of view with you but also to meet with President Lula, with whom I've got a good relationship.

He is a person who had to make some tough decisions. That's what leaders have to do; you've got to make tough decisions. And he's made hard decisions for the people of

Brazil. He is—the economy is going well here, which is good news. He also has got a good heart. And I share the same concern he has; I share a concern of making sure that the least fortunate among us has a chance to survive and succeed.

And so this is going to be a good trip here, and I'm grateful for you all taking time to come by and visit. I look forward to having a fruitful discussion with you. And we'll start with Carlos.

Participant. Thank you very much, Mr. President. Latin Americans for a long time have had a love-hatred relationship with the U.S. Latin Americans admire the military and economic power of the United States, its popular culture, and many values with which they share. But Latin Americans resist the somewhat missionary nature of U.S. when justifying its international actions. For instance, when the U.S. exports democracy, exports market economies, or even exports civil liberties. This has been really very much criticized or contested, even in this region of the world. The Mar del Plata incidents of a few days ago, during the Summit of the Americas, showed that the mood of the demonstrators may easily go beyond the acceptable limits in—civilization.

My question now: Is the U.S. able to pinpoint the causes for these disagreements that they have with the opinionmakers here in Latin America, and does the U.S. have a clear strategy to change this love and hatred relationship into one of cooperation and friendship?

The President. Well, first of all, I—we met in a society which allows people to express their different points of view. In other words—which is positive—I expect there to be dissent. That's what freedom is all about. People should be allowed to express themselves. And so what happened in Argentina happens in America. That's positive. Can you imagine being in a society where people were not allowed to express their positions?

Secondly, I fully understand there's, at times, a view of America that is, in my opinion, not an accurate view. I mean, you say, "missionary zeal to spread democracy"—I do have a deep desire to help others assume a democracy that is a democracy that conforms to their traditions and their customs. And the

reason why is because the world has seen that democracies do not fight each other.

As an example, war broke out in Europe in the early 1900s, as well as the mid-1900s. And yet we've had no war in Europe since. And one of the reasons why is because the nations of Europe became democracies, not American democracy but democracies that reflected the values of the people in that country—in their countries.

One of the stories I like to share with people—it's an interesting story, and I think an illustration of what I'm trying to do—is that Japan was the sworn enemy of the United States in the late 1940s. My dad was a soldier, Navy pilot, and fighting the Japanese. Today—I'm going to Japan in 2 weeks. I will be sitting down with one of the best friends that I have in the international arena, Koizumi. That's interesting, isn't it? What happened between the time when America was fighting Japan and when, now, Japan is an ally with the United States in dealing with a tyrant in North Korea, for example? And what happened was, Japan adopted a Japanese-style democracy.

And so I am anxious to work with countries to help make sure that the institutions, universal institutions of democracy become entrenched in society, freedom to worship, freedom of the press, rule of law.

I will also tell you, I firmly believe that a society which is democratic is one much more likely to be able to deal with the social ills of a society. I mean, a democracy is one in which minorities have rights and can express themselves through the legislative process. Tyrannies are such that minorities don't have rights, unless you happen to be aligned with the tyrant.

And so, one, I don't think America, nor Brazil, should ever back down from believing in the universality of freedom and democracy. Secondly, I hope that I am able to do so in a way that explains our position, as opposed to alienating people. And one of the reasons I've come to Brazil is to make that eminently clear, that the United States is a friend of Brazil and that our values that we discuss are universal in nature. They apply to Brazil equally as they apply to America.

So very good question, Carlos.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:54 a.m. at the United States Embassy. In his remarks, he referred to President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of Brazil; Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan; and Chairman Kim Chong-il of North Korea. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks Following Discussions With President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of Brazil in Brasilia

November 6, 2005

President Lula da Silva. Your Excellency, George Bush, President of the United States of America, and Mrs. Laura Bush; my dear wife, Marisa Leticia Lula da Silva; ladies and gentlemen; members of the delegations of the U.S. and of Brazil; the journalists from Brazil and journalists from the U.S. and journalists from other countries who are also here: The presence of President Bush here with us expresses to a very high degree the intensification of the dialogs between our governments.

In December 2002, before I took office, President Bush was kind enough to receive me at the White House. In June 2003, I was with him once again in an important working meeting in Washington. We had several meetings also at international meetings during these almost 3 years that I've been in government. We have exchanged letters, and we have—we've spoke several times over the phone. Today's visit is a privileged opportunity for us to discuss many issues in our bilateral relations, as well as regional and global issues around which we can work together.

I wish to express publicly a few considerations on relations between the U.S. and Brazil in the more general framework of our foreign policy. I have often said that our foreign policy is not just a way of projecting Brazil into the rest of the world; it is also a fundamental element for our nation's project of development.

During these 34 months of my administration, we have worked very hard to come closer to our South American brothers. We have

intensified bilateral relations with all countries in the region. We have expanded and strengthened the MERCOSUR. We have created the South American Community of Nations. We have maintained excellent relations with the countries of the Caribbean as well as Central and North America. We have pushed for very active policies in Africa, a continent I have visited several times and been to 14 countries. We are the—our country has the second largest black population in the world, and we have a historical debt to the African Continent.

Brazil has also opened up to the Arab world, the main result of that opening being the summit between South America and Arab countries. We strengthened our relations with major emerging countries such as China, India, Russia, Korea, and South Africa.

We have not stopped opening new frontiers. The results of that opening have been unprecedented growth in our foreign trade, the attraction of new investments, and the internationalization of our own companies. But that quest for new horizons has not compromised our relationships with major developed countries such as the European Union, Japan, and obviously, the United States of America.

When I was elected President, there were those who foresaw the deterioration of relations between Brazil and the U.S. They were roundly mistaken. On the contrary, our relations today are going through one of their best moments ever. Economic and trade relations have expanded very much, and our political dialog has gained a much higher quality. We, the United States and Brazil, understand our economic and political importance as well as the responsibilities they imply. We defend our national interests and our general political values. Our self-respect strengthens our mutual respect. When each country values its own sovereignty, we are able to respect the sovereignty of other countries as well.

The understandable differences and points of view on issues of the regional or global agendas have been discussed frankly, with no surprises or confrontations. I wish to recognize how President Bush, his Secretary of State, and other top officials of the U.S. ad-

ministration have contributed to making this environment of cordial relations become even better.

Mr. President, our peoples share common outlooks on absolutely fundamental issues, such as the defense of democracy, the spread of freedom, and respect for human rights. We have had dialog on crucial themes for two nations that are committed to the challenges of peace and of globalization. International security, development aid, the balance of trade rules, and the reform of the multilateral system in the United Nations, in particular, have been at the core of our conversations. We have been known how to emphasize our affinities. We are two major, multiethnic democracies, with the vocations for cooperating in promoting full citizenship and fighting all forms of discrimination.

The presence of a large Brazilian community in the U.S. enriches the tradition of mutual contact and the admiration between our societies. Good dialog between our immigration authorities will be fundamental for guaranteeing fair and balanced treatment for those who are the true bridges between our countries.

We also spoke very much about what we could do to promote the progress and well-being of other countries. We are working hard in favor of development, particularly in Africa. In Haiti, where Brazil is heading the U.N. stabilization mission, we have collaborated in emergency programs in the areas of health and basic sanitation. We are involved in achieving the full success of national elections that will open the way to normality, in political terms, and the return to economic and social development for Haiti. And we are involved—it is also important that the economic aid that's been promised to Haiti arrive quickly.

President Bush and I have the same optimistic vision on our bilateral relations. There have been many advances following our first meeting in 2003. The working groups that we created on growth, agriculture, and energy have brought significant results. And we have now decided to advance in other strategic fields. We will begin high-level cooperation in science and technology and intensify our educational partnerships in areas such as biodiversity and agriculture. In the

area of health, we will be opening up new fronts for cooperation to fight diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis, AIDS, and threats such as the avian flu pandemic.

Our partnership is grounded on solid economic basis. The United States are the largest individual partner of Brazil as the largest market for our exports and our main source of direct overseas investment. Our exchange has grown at rates of 7 percent per year. In 2004 alone, we received \$4 billion in investments from the United States.

We carry on tranquil and mature discussions on specific issues that always come up as part of any partnership on this scale—on a scale like this. We are working to negotiate the removal of unjustified barriers to our bilateral trade, and we are working in the same spirit to achieve multilateral economic and trade discussions.

The successful conclusion of the Doha round by the end of 2006 is a priority for the United States as much as it is for Brazil. We agree that the reduction, with a view to the elimination of agricultural subsidies, will be a key to balance in that round. I thank President Bush for his words of support for Brazil's determination to contribute to development and stability in our region.

It is for all of these reasons that we are very glad to see the U.S. willingness to include Brazil amongst those countries with whom Brazil—the United States has a strategic and privileged dialog. President Bush, what we leave for history is more than our immediate decisions. What really matters are those initiatives that take into account future generations as well as the need for us to face and overcome the major challenges of our time. Brazilian foreign policy transcends governments.

At the same time we defend our national interest, we pursue major democratic values in the international sphere. In that sense, I once again insist that U.S.-Brazil relations are fundamental, and their improvement is a legacy that we should leave to those who will come after us.

Thank you very much.

President Bush. Mr. President, thank you very much. Laura and I are really pleased to be here on our first visit to Brazil. My only regret is that I'm not able to travel

around a lot of your country to see the vast beauty of Brazil. It's a spectacular part of the world, and I want to thank you for your invitation to come here. The President promised to take me fishing—of course, he said, after I'm President. The entourage is a little big to go fishing while I'm President.

But Mr. President, Laura and I appreciate the hospitality that you and Mrs. Marisa have shown us. We're also looking forward to good old-fashioned Brazilian barbecue. It will remind me of home.

We—let me start off by saying that the President is right: Relations between Brazil and the United States are essential, and they are strong. We've had many constructive discussions. I remember the first time you came to the Oval Office, and I was most impressed by your strong commitment to your program of Zero Hunger. It struck me as not only sincere but reflecting your deep compassion for the people. And since then, we've had the capacity to sit down and talk about issues that are important for not only our respective countries but the world. And I want to thank you for that frank and open relationship.

Brazil and America are interesting places, obviously, but one thing we have in common is that we are a country—two countries that are able to deal with our diversity in such a way as to strengthen our nation. Brazil is a very diverse country, as is America, and it's those common values that we both adhere to that make it feasible for people from different backgrounds to live in peace and harmony. And we discussed those values, the President and I did. He's a man who believes strongly in democracy, as do I, and rule of law and the right of free speech and the right to a free press and free religion. And I want to thank you for your strong belief and your willingness to stand strong on those principles.

We're the two largest democracies in the world [Western world].^{*} Therefore, we have obligations to work together to promote peace and prosperity. We started what's called the Group for Growth, to find ways to develop economic possibilities and potential in our respective countries. I must say,

^{*} White House correction.

Mr. President, I'm impressed by the economic reforms you've put in place, by the achievements you had made through good government policy to encourage growth, not only here at home but to encourage exports.

We're encouraged by the increase of bilateral trade between our countries. I met with some businesspeople earlier today, and they were talking about how important our markets are to each other and that trade is an important way for people to be able to find work in our countries. And good trade is trade where people benefit on both sides of the issue, that it must be equitable, it must be fair, and I'm convinced that's the trade relationship we have on a bilateral basis.

I know you're concerned about creating jobs, and your country has done a very good job of doing so while keeping inflation down. And I appreciate your understanding that free trade and fair trade is the way to help the citizens of your country. We can have free and fair trade without losing national identity. We can have free or fair trade without penalizing local small businesses and entrepreneurs. And the President is working hard to make sure that the trade opportunities available to the citizens of Brazil are done in such a way that there's a spirit of—there's an equitable spirit involved. And I want to thank you for your leadership on that.

We've got some opportunities to continue to expand trade. I firmly believe that if one wants to eliminate poverty around the world, the best way to do so is to advance the Doha round of the WTO. Now, the President has made it very clear that it's difficult to get a Doha round going so long as there are countries that refuse to yield on agricultural matters, and I heard that loud and clear. And so recently, I made a statement, or a series of statements, that said the United States will reduce subsidies and tariffs, so long as we get the same treatment from trading partners such as Europe. In other words, I just—if we lower the subsidies, we would very much like to be able to tell our farmers the same thing the President wants to tell his farmers, that there's access to markets. And so we made a very strong statement toward advancing the Doha round, the WTO. We've declared our intention, and I told the President I was very serious in that declaration.

And we agreed to work together to advance the round. It's in the workers of Brazil's interest that WTO advance. This is a vast country with great resources and a workforce that's hardworking, and the more products that Brazilians can manufacture and sell overseas, the better—more likely it is people will be able to find work. And so one of the interesting things that has come out of this meeting is a renewed commitment to working together to eliminate poverty by creating opportunity through international trade that's fair, that's fair for the people of Brazil and fair for the people of America.

And along those lines, we continued our discussions that was taking place in Argentina. There is an opportunity to advance trade, and we agreed to speak about that and how best to work together, for example, to be able to compete with countries like China or India. It's in our interests that we work together on a trade agenda. I call it the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas; I think you refer to it as ALCA. And the President said, "Look, let's work together on Doha and see how that goes, and we'll continue to working on the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas."

It's important for the people of Brazil to understand that such an agreement will not be done if the President thinks this isn't in the interests of the people. I've got to—he's got to be convinced, just like the people of America must be convinced, that a trade arrangement in our hemisphere is good for jobs, its good for the quality of life. And so I look forward to continue to work on international matters and regional matters as well as bilateral matters, Mr. President.

I want to thank you for your leadership around the world and in the hemisphere. I want to thank you very much for your commitment to Haiti. There's elections coming up soon, and the Brazilian presence there has made it more likely those elections will go forward in a free and fair way. You're a—you've taken a responsible position, and I hope your country is proud of the fact that you've seized this moment.

I want to thank you as well for working on HIV/AIDS with the United States. Like you, we share a deep commitment to help those who suffer from this pandemic. And

like you, we do more than talk; we act. And as a result of our combined efforts, hundreds of thousands of people are getting antiretroviral drugs, and that's important, and I want to thank you for that.

One of the things that I appreciate about the President is he fully understands that narcotrafficking and terrorism can disrupt the democratic way of life. And Brazil has been strong—strong in working with other countries to prevent a few criminals or thugs from disrupting our way of life, and done so with constitutional guarantees in mind. We always keep human rights in the forefront of our policy. But we also know that we must work together to prevent those who would murder the innocent or those who would pollute the bodies of our young from being able to do so. And I want to thank you again for your leadership on that.

This has been a constructive trip, constructive because, Mr. President, I enjoy working with you, constructive because you're frank in our discussions, and constructive because together we can do some good for not only our own people but for the world. Thank you very much, sir.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:22 p.m. at the Granja do Torto. In his remarks, he referred to Marisa Leticia Lula da Silva, wife of President Lula da Silva. President Lula da Silva spoke in Portuguese, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Remarks on Democracy in the Americas in Brasilia

November 6, 2005

Thank you. *Boa tarde*. Thank you for coming. This is my first trip to Brazil, and Laura and I are really pleased to be here in your capital city. We've had a magnificent stay, had a great visit with President Lula. It's an important visit because Brazil and the United States are close friends. And that's the way it should be. Plus the President and the First Lady gave us an unbelievably good barbeque. [Laughter] I also commend the President for his commitment to improving the lives of the people here in Brazil.

Our two nations share many things in common. We are both children of the New World, founded in empire and fulfilled in independence. We're united by history and geography. We share the conviction that the future of our hemisphere must be a future of justice and freedom.

Only a generation ago, this was a continent plagued by military dictatorship and civil war. Yet the people of this continent defied the dictators, and they claimed their liberty. We saw the dramatic evidence at the Summit of the Americas that President Lula and I just attended. The delegates from 34 countries that came to this conference all represent democratic governments.

Freedom is the gift of the Almighty to every man and woman in this world, and today, this vision is the free consensus of a free Americas. It is a vision that is written into the founding document of the Organization of American States, which calls this hemisphere—calls on the hemisphere “to offer to man a land of liberty and a favorable environment for the realization of his just aspirations.” It is the vision that is given clear direction in the Inter-American Democratic Charter, which declares, “The peoples of the Americas have a right to democracy and their governments have an obligation to promote and defend it.” And it is a vision that puts what was once a distant dream within our reach, an Americas wholly free and democratic and at peace with ourselves and our neighbors.

As the largest democracy in South America, Brazil is a leader, and today, Brazil is exercising its leadership across the globe. In Africa, Brazil is working to defeat the scourge of HIV/AIDS by partnering with America to improve treatment and care and prevention in Portuguese-speaking nations like Mozambique. In this hemisphere, Brazil leads the coalition of the United Nations peacekeeping forces who are helping to restore peace and stability in Haiti. And here at home, Brazil aspires to set an example for the continent by building a just social order where the blessings of liberty are enjoyed by every citizen of this great nation.

Ensuring social justice for the Americas requires choosing between two competing visions. One offers a vision of hope. It is founded on representative government, integration into the world community, and a faith in the transformative power of freedom in individual lives. The other seeks to roll back the democratic progress of the past two decades by playing to fear, pitting neighbor against neighbor, and blaming others for their own failures to provide for their people. The choices we make will determine which vision will define the Americas our children inherit, and we must make tough decisions today to ensure a better tomorrow.

As you work for a better tomorrow, Brazil must know you have a strong partner in the United States. Like you, we aspire for a hemisphere where the dignity of every human being is respected. Like you, we believe that the poor and disenfranchised have a special claim on our attention. And like you, we know that we must make good on the promises of democracy. In the Americas of the 21st century, freedom is the gateway to social justice, and democracies old and new must work together to build a hemisphere that delivers hope and opportunity for every citizen.

Our common ideal of social justice begins with self-government. The promise of democracy starts with national pride and independence and elections, but it does not end there. A country that divides into factions and dwells on old grievances cannot move forward and risks sliding back into tyranny. A country that unites all its people behind common ideals will multiply in strength and confidence. The successful democracies of the 21st century will not be defined by blood and soil. Successful democracies will be defined by a broader ideal of citizenship, based on shared principles and shared responsibilities and respect for all.

For my own country, the process of becoming a mature, multiethnic democracy was lengthy. My country's journey from national independence to equal justice for all meant overcoming the enslavement of millions and a 4-year civil war. Even after slavery ended, a century passed before the guarantee of equal rights under the law was finally made real. Racial division almost destroyed my

country, and the citizens of the United States learned the false doctrine of "separate but equal" was no basis for a strong and unified America. The only way my country found to rise above the injustices of our history was to reject segregation, to move beyond mere tolerance, and to affirm the brotherhood of all people in our land.

Each democracy has its own character and culture that reflect its unique traditions and history. Yet all free and successful countries share some common characteristics: Freedom to worship, freedom of the press, freedom of speech, economic liberty, equal justice under the rule of law, equal citizenship for all, and the limitation of state power through checks and balances. In many parts of our hemisphere, these institutions of a free society are still young, and they are fragile, and we must ensure that they are strong for the tasks ahead. To deliver justice, the people must have confidence in their institutions, and we must replace the rule of man with the rule of law.

Some today suggest that democracy has outlived its usefulness. They have misread history. The Americas has declared democracy indispensable for the exercise of human rights. It is the only region in the world that imposes an obligation to defend democracy. For all the growing pains, it is a miracle of history that this young century finds us speaking about the consolidation of freedom throughout our hemisphere. We must continue our work to help strengthen the institutions of liberty because we know that freedom is the only way to ensure that our citizens can lead lives of purpose and dignity. And without democracy there can be no social justice, because only democracy offers a place at the table for every member of society.

Our common ideal of social justice must include a better life for all our citizens. As elections and democracies have spread across our hemisphere, we see a revolution in expectations. In free societies, citizens will rightly insist that people should not go hungry, that every child deserves the opportunity for a decent education, and that hard work and initiative should be rewarded. And with each new generation that grows up in freedom and democracy, these expectations rise

and the demands for accountability grow. Either democracies will meet these legitimate demands, or we will yield the future to the enemies of freedom.

The nations of this hemisphere have a moral obligation to help others. They have a moral obligation to educate their children and to provide decent health care. We have a moral duty to make sure our actions are effective. At Monterrey in 2002, the world agreed to a new vision for the way we fight poverty and curb corruption and provide aid in this new millennium. Developing countries agreed to take responsibility for their own economic progress through good governance and sound practices and the rule of law, and developed countries agreed to support these efforts.

My country has sought to implement the Monterrey consensus by changing the way we deliver aid. We have established a new Millennium Challenge Account that increases aid for nations that govern justly, that invest in the education and health of their people, and promote economic freedom. Recently we signed compacts delivering aid—Millennium Challenge aid to Honduras and Nicaragua. This new aid will help those countries improve their roads and diversify their crops and strengthen property rights and make their rural businesses more competitive. And in the years ahead, under the leadership of Ambassador Danilovich, we hope more countries will follow their example.

My country has also stepped up to meet the humanitarian challenges facing our region and the world by providing millions of dollars bilaterally, especially for education of the children. We understand that you cannot achieve economic prosperity and social justice without educating the children of a country. We also support the Global Fund for HIV/AIDS, to provide care and prevention and support for those suffering from the pandemic. At the 2004 Special Summit in Mexico, the leaders of our hemisphere, including President Lula and me, made a commitment to provide lifesaving treatment for at least 600,000 individuals by the next Summit of the Americas. We worked together. We have shown our words are not empty promises. We have helped deliver treatment to more than 670,000 people in this hemisphere,

which surpasses our goal of helping those with HIV/AIDS. And there is more work to be done.

As we expand and improve aid, we are also working to improve the Inter-American Development Bank. Since it was established, this bank has played a major role in the economic development of Latin America and the Caribbean. But as the economies of the Americas further develop, the bank has to change with them. The beginning of President Moreno's tenure gives us a great opportunity to modernize the bank by taking better advantage of global capital markets and by tailoring the bank's programs to the real needs of the growing economies on this continent. The private sector is the engine of growth and job creation in this region. The bank must greatly strengthen its role in private sector investment, especially in small businesses, which are the backbone of a healthy and growing economy. I have asked the United States Treasury Secretary John Snow to work with his counterparts in the hemisphere and at the bank to implement reforms that will ensure that the bank better addresses the needs for economic growth and job creation. They will also discuss a range of options, including giving grants and debt relief for the poorest of nations.

Increasing aid and relieving debt are important parts of our efforts to lift the burden of poverty from places of suffering, yet they are not enough. Our goal is to promote opportunity for people throughout the Americas, whether you live in Minnesota or Brazil. And the best way to do this is by expanding free and fair trade.

The United States, Mexico, and Canada took a first step with what's called NAFTA. And trade between our countries has tripled in 10-year period. Our hemisphere has sought to build on this example by committing ourselves to the Free Trade of the Americas that would eliminate barriers across the entire hemisphere, and I appreciate President Lula's discussion with me today about working to see if we can't make that become a reality. The United States has also made substantial advances toward the goal of hemispheric free trade through bilateral trade agreements with partners such as Chile. And

3 months ago, we passed through our Congress a trade agreement with the nations of Central America and the Dominican Republic that gives the people of that region jobs and opportunities that come with freer trade and more investment.

And at this moment, we're working hard to advance negotiations with the Andean countries and Panama. By working for free and—I repeat—fair trade across this hemisphere, we will bring all our people into the expanding circle of development. We'll make it easier for those of us who live in this hemisphere to compete with countries like China and India. But most importantly, trade means jobs for people.

The best opportunity to deliver the blessings of trade to every citizen in this hemisphere is the Doha round of negotiations in the World Trade Organization. A successful Doha round will open up markets for farm products and services and industrial goods across this hemisphere and across the globe. Under Doha, every nation will gain, and the developing world stands to gain the most. The World Bank estimates that if the Doha round passes, 300 million people will be lifted from poverty. We know that from history that developing nations that open themselves up to trade grow at several times the rate of countries that practice protectionism. And the stakes are high—they're really high. The lives and futures of millions of poor people across the globe hang in the balance, and so we must bring the Doha trade talks to a successful conclusion.

The greatest obstacles to a successful Doha round are the countries that stand firm in the way of dismantling the tariffs and barriers and trade-distorting subsidies that isolate the poor on this continent from the great opportunities of the 21st century. Only an ambitious reform agenda in agriculture and manufactured goods and services can ensure that the benefits of free and fair trade are enjoyed by all people in all countries.

We agree with Brazil that the agricultural negotiations will unlock the full potential of the Doha round. Your President has criticized the agricultural subsidies that the developed world pays to its farmers, trade-distorting subsidies that undercut honest farmers in the developing world. I agree with

President Lula, and the United States is leading the way to address this problem.

My administration has offered a bold proposal for Doha that would substantially reduce agricultural tariffs and trade-distorting subsidies, in a first stage, and over a period of 15 years, eliminate them altogether. Leaders who are concerned about the harmful effects of high tariffs and farm subsidies must move the Doha round forward. And leaders who want to make progress on agricultural subsidies must use their influence to help the WTO make progress on all aspects of the Doha round. By completing Doha, we will help build an Americas that lives in liberty, trades in freedom, and grows in prosperity.

Finally, our common ideal is—of social justice requires safety and security for all our citizens. In many parts of this hemisphere, drug lords and terrorists and criminal gangs corrupt democratic societies. When these groups are more powerful than the state, there can be no social justice. So the United States is working with affected countries to restore the rule of law and ensure the safety of ordinary citizens. We are working with the Government of Mexico to stop the smugglers who traffic in everything from guns to human beings. We are helping President Uribe and the Colombian people defeat the cocaine cartels and narcoterrorists. We're providing money to help honest farmers grow legitimate crops. We're working with our partners in this region to stop terrorist organizations from using this hemisphere as a base to launder money and to provide support for their operations across the globe.

By protecting the people of the Americas from those who operate outside the law, we strengthen democracy, we promote social justice, and we make prosperity more likely. Citizens who live in fear for their lives because of drug lords and terrorists and criminal gangs are not free citizens. So we must continue to work for the day that all citizens can count on their governments to protect them from criminals and advance the peace and stability that can only come from freedom.

In the last half-century, the nations of the Americas have overcome enormous challenges, colonialism and communism and military dictatorship. The progress we have

achieved is the result of tremendous sacrifice and leadership. One such leader was the man who built this beautiful capital as the symbol of Brazilian democracy. President Kubitschek was forced into exile when anti-democratic forces seized control in Brazil. His dream, he said, was to live and die in a free country. At the start of this hopeful new century, the dream of this proud patriot inspires citizens not only in this country but all around the continent.

The citizens of the Americas look to us, the elected leaders, to make his dream a reality and to lead by example. Governments across this hemisphere must be strong, must listen to the people, and must not squander their money. Governments across this hemisphere must be free of corruption. Governments across this hemisphere must be accountable, and we must live by the same standard we set for others. By making the blessings of freedom real in our hemisphere, we will advance the cause of social justice and set a shining example for the rest of the world.

Thank you for allowing me to come and address you. May God bless Brazil. May God continue to bless our Nation, America. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 4:23 p.m. at the Blue Tree Park Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of Brazil, and his wife, Marisa Leticia Lula da Silva; Luis Alberto Moreno Mejia, president, Inter-American Development Bank; and President Alvaro Uribe of Colombia. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Joint Statement on the Occasion of the Visit by President George W. Bush to Brazil

November 5–6, 2005

1. Presidents George W. Bush and Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva underscored the increasingly strong and close ties that Brazil and the United States enjoy, based on common values and objectives, including the promotion of democracy, development, economic growth, trade liberalization, international security and combating terrorism. They recog-

nized the link between development, peace, security, human rights and social justice. They reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen the bilateral relationship based on these principles and to deepen the two nations' ongoing strategic dialogue on democracy, development, and other key shared priorities.

2. The Presidents underscored the priority that both governments attach to reforming the United Nations to make it more effective and attuned to present day realities. They agreed to work together on issues such as management reform and the creation of a Human Rights Council and a Peacebuilding Commission. They further committed to coordinate closely on the issue of Security Council reform, which they agreed was an important component of reform. They also reaffirmed their commitment to fighting hunger and poverty, promoting democratic values and fostering economic development and emphasized the importance of implementing the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development and the Millennium Development Goals.

3. They agreed to work together within the Community of Democracies to promote improved governance, regional and trans-regional dialogues, development and poverty alleviation. Brazil and the United States also agreed to make greater efforts to cooperate in the promotion of equal opportunity, democratic values and diversity in the workforce, taking into account the multiethnic and multicultural nature of their societies.

4. The Presidents also reaffirmed their commitment to working to ensure a positive outcome at the WTO Ministerial Conference, to be held in Hong Kong in December 2005 as well as the successful conclusion of the Doha Round by the end of 2006. In this context, President Lula welcomed the statement delivered by President Bush in the 2005 UN High Level Plenary Meeting, reaffirming that the United States is ready to eliminate all tariffs, subsidies and other barriers to the free flow of goods and services as other nations do the same.

5. The Presidents noted with satisfaction the growth of bilateral trade and investment between the U.S and Brazil. They committed

themselves to encourage the public and private sectors of their respective countries to increase and diversify the bilateral flows of goods and services. To this end, they expressed their hope to substantially increase trade by 2010.

6. Reaffirming the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), they acknowledged that the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights should contribute to the promotion of technological innovation and to the transfer and dissemination of technology, and to a balance of rights and obligations, to the mutual advantage of producers and users of technological knowledge and in a manner conducive to social and economic welfare. The leaders agreed to promote innovation and technological advancement by providing strong intellectual property protection and effective enforcement of intellectual property rights. The Presidents also reaffirmed the Doha Declaration on Trips and Public Health.

7. They agreed to strengthen bilateral cooperation to combat the narcotics trade, trafficking in wildlife, terrorism, and money laundering, with an emphasis on information sharing between the two countries' financial intelligence units and the design of mechanisms to recover assets derived from transnational crimes.

8. As Co-Chairs of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) process, the Presidents noted the importance of continuing efforts to promote trade liberalization and reaffirmed their commitment to the FTAA process, based on the Miami framework, and look forward to a hemispheric meeting for the timely resumption of the negotiations. They also observed that the efforts towards integration in South America, such as Mercosur and the South American Community of Nations (CASA), are important tools for the promotion of prosperity, stability and democracy in the region. Likewise, they noted that closer ties between South American countries also contribute to the objective of regional integration in Latin America and the Americas as a whole.

9. The two Presidents stated their intent to work together to address specific challenges facing the Americas and other regions.

Presidents Bush and Lula expressed support for working in partnership with Africans to promote peace, democracy and prosperity across the continent of Africa.

10. With regard to health, they recognized the need to provide greater structure to the bilateral dialogue and expressed the desire to carry out joint activities to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis; to develop strategies for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases; and to address the threat of avian influenza.

11. The Presidents expressed their commitment to ensure that political stability, democracy, and development take firm root in Haiti. Brazil and the United States closely follow the development of the electoral process in Haiti and express their confidence that a new democratically elected President will take office on February 7, 2006.

12. The Presidents noted with satisfaction the activities of the working groups on economic growth, agriculture and energy established in June 2003, as well as the Consultative Mechanism on Trade and Investment established in 2001. The Presidents also committed to intensify existing dialogues and cooperation in science and technology, education, the environment, and promotion of trade and investment. They agreed to:

- (a) convene the Joint Commission provided for in the 1984 Bilateral Agreement relating to Cooperation in Science and Technology and reinvigorate medium- and long-term activities in areas such as earth, atmospheric, and space sciences, health, biodiversity, and agriculture;
- (b) renew the current Memorandum of Understanding, continuing the "Partnership in Education;"
- (c) elevate current dialogue on the protection of the environment and sustainable management of natural resources; and
- (d) establish an informal consultative mechanism between the Ministry of Development, Industry, and Trade and the Department of Commerce.

13. The Presidents reaffirmed their friendship and their commitment to further strengthening ties between the two nations

to foster freedom, democracy, security and prosperity.

NOTE: The transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 6. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language version of this joint statement. An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

**The President's News Conference
With President Martin Torrijos
Espino of Panama in Panama City,
Panama**

November 7, 2005

President Torrijos Espino. A very good morning, esteemed journalists. I'm pleased to welcome you, to welcome the President of the United States to Panama.

On this rainy morning, we've had a work meeting with President Bush, and we've had the opportunity to exchange viewpoints on various subjects of interest to Panama as well as of interest to the United States. We've discussed the advantages and opportunities offered by free trade, and we've reviewed our agenda, starting with past April's visit when I had the opportunity to visit President Bush in Washington.

Panama has had a special relationship with the United States throughout the various stages of its history, and the President and I are committed to maintain and strengthen this through dialog and through an open relationship such as we have had so far. There will not always be agreement, such as in the unexploded ordinance issue, but there will always be a frankness, sincerity between us so that we can discuss as friends on the various viewpoints of our countries.

In a few moments, I'll have the opportunity to take President Bush to the Miraflores Locks. This will be the first time that a sitting U.S. President—the first time a sitting U.S. President left the United States, he did so to observe the construction of the Panama Canal. And today the President of the United States, George W. Bush, will have the opportunity to see how we Panamanians feel proud not only of the process of reversion of the Panama Canal from U.S. to Panamanian hands, but we also feel proud of the

way the canal is being managed and of the opportunities that it will offer into the future.

Welcome, Mr. President. And we will now offer an opportunity for press from both sides to ask a couple of questions.

President Bush. I look forward to going to the Panama Canal. I am most impressed by the management of the canal. Those who are responsible for the Panama Canal have done an excellent job, and this is beneficial to the world, and I congratulate you for that. And I'm really looking forward to seeing it.

I'm also looking forward to paying our respects to—by laying a wreath. I'm also looking forward to seeing some of the Panamanian baseball stars. People around here know how to play baseball, and I'm looking forward to seeing some of your stars, Mr. President. So thanks for letting us come. Thanks for inviting me.

We have had a very good discussion, and it's important we have discussions, because we're friends. And one of the matters we discussed was, how do we work together to improve the lives of our respective citizens? And one way is through trade. We're in the midst of negotiating a free trade agreement with Panama. And I told the President this free trade agreement is important for America, as he told me it's important for Panama. And we're close to coming to an agreement, and we'll continue to work on that agreement for the good of our respective peoples.

I also told him that I was pleased with the leadership of Panama and Argentina. Twenty-nine nations said, loud and clear, "It's important for us to continue to advance a trade agenda that is positive for the people of this hemisphere." And I appreciated your Government's stance on that, Mr. President. You're acting in the interest of your people.

And speaking about the interest of the people, I do want to say something about the tornados that recently hit America. I had the—I called the Governor of Indiana this morning and expressed my deepest condolences for the families who lost lives. I asked him if there was more Federal response needed. He felt like the response that we had given was appropriate at the time. And many Americans are now asking God's blessings on those who suffered through this natural disaster.

Mr. President, I'm fully aware that 25,000 of our citizens live in your beautiful country. I can see why. It is a beautiful country. Panama City is a modern, progressive city, and your Government is a modern, progressive Government. I congratulate you for your fiscal reforms. I congratulate you for the strong growth of your economy. I appreciate your transparency. I appreciate your strong commitment to fighting corruption. It sends a clear signal not only to the people of this important country but also to people throughout the region. And it's noble, and it's important that you continue, which I know you will, your very strong leadership.

I look forward to continuing to discuss ways for us to fight narcotrafficking. You've been strong in that. And that's important for our hemisphere, not to allow the narcotraffickers and narcoterrorists to be able to threaten the stability of democracies. I also appreciate your strong commitment to democracy, itself, rule of law, and freedom to worship, freedom of the press, the ability for government to be transparent, and governments to have checks and balances so that we deal with the rule of law, not the rule of man. And it's your example, which is an important example for others to see.

And again, I want to thank you very much for your leadership. I also thank you very much for helping another part of the world become free and democratic, and that's in Iraq. And I appreciate the supervisors that you sent to help monitor the elections, to see to it that those—the vote on the constitution is free and fair. And I congratulate you for that. It's an important gesture, recognizing that—a gesture that recognizes that freedom is universal in its application and that democracy is the best way to lay the groundwork for peace.

And I finally want to thank you very much for the condolences and offers of assistance you gave to our people after Hurricane Katrina. You're indeed a good friend, and I'm proud to be here to confirm that friendship.

President Torrijos Espino. Thank you.

We would at this time open the floor to two questions per side for the journalist group.

Panama-U.S. Free Trade Agreement/ Unexploded Ordinance

Q. Good morning. You discussed the free trade agreement. There's been some remarks, Mr. President, in regard that your support in Congress has lessened and that the CAFTA was approved by a very narrow margin. What are the real probabilities of getting support in Congress for the ratification of a free trade agreement between Panama and the United States?

And there's also concern in Panama regarding the subject of the unexploded ordinance in areas contaminated in Emperador, San Jose, et cetera, and the commitment from the United States as to whether those areas can be decontaminated.

President Bush. Let me start with the chances of getting an agreement passed. The first step is to get the agreement done, and we're getting close. And I—we talked to Trade Minister Portman yesterday on the way here to Panama. He understands how—the importance I place and the priority I place on this agreement. And we just got to continue to work it and get it done.

Secondly, we're going to have to work the Congress. We talked about working the Congress. It's—I'll do my best to work in the Congress, and the Panamanian Government understands that once we get an agreement, that ministers and friends and allies of Panama will go work the Congress. And one area that we need to make progress on is with the Democrat Party. The Democrat Party is a free—for many sessions, was a free trade party. Not totally, but they had—let me rephrase that—the Democrat Party had free trade members who are willing to make the right decisions based not on politics but based on what's best for the interest of the country. And that spirit has dissipated in recent votes, and Panama can help reinvigorate the spirit. We can help to make sure this isn't just such a partisan issue, that people are unwilling to make a vote based upon their principle and what's right for our respective countries.

Secondly, we had obligations under the treaty, and we felt like we met those obligations. There is a difference of opinion, and so we have a disagreement that we will continue to discuss. And we're able to do so in

a way that I think is constructive, because we're friends.

Deb [Deb Riechmann, Associated Press].

CIA Employee's Identity Disclosure Investigation

Q. Back in October of 2000, Mr. President—

President Bush. October of 2000?

Q. Yes, sir. Back in October of 2000, this is what you said—

President Bush. Okay. Whew.

Q. “We will ask not only what is legal but what is right, not what the lawyers allow but what the public deserves.” In the CIA leak case, has your administration lived up to this campaign promise?

President Bush. In the—pardon my—I didn't hear you.

Q. In the CIA leak case, has your administration lived up to this campaign promise?

President Bush. Oh, Deb, look, I said the other day to the press corps that was assembled in Argentina that there's still an ongoing investigation. We take this investigation very seriously, and we'll continue to cooperate during the investigation.

Panama Canal/Free Trade of the Americas Agreement

Q. Thank you, Mr. President. President Bush, how would the United States look upon mainland China's participation in the subject of the widening of the Panama Canal? And would this participation affect interests of the United States?

And on the other hand, in the recent FTAA summit held in South America, there were deep divisions, and what do you feel these deep divisions are all about, these ideological issues among the countries of MERCOSUR?

President Bush. First let me start with the Panama Canal. I think it is wise for the Government to consider modernizing the canal. It's—things have changed since the canal was first built, and there needs to be a continued appraisal of the canal to make sure that it is—it's used. It's in the Nation's interest that this canal be modernized. And so I—we didn't discuss the financing mechanisms, but I'm confident that however the widening is—the modernization is financed,

that the Government and the—those authorities over the canal recognize that it is to be used by everybody, that the canal is international, that there ought to be equal access. It's in the interest of those who run the canal not only to modernize it but to make sure it's used properly.

At the FTAA, 29 countries—I mean, at the summit on the FTAA, 29 countries said, “Let's make sure in 2006, we continue discussing a way forward for the FTAA,” 29 of the 34 countries. There was a strong approval for the concept of working together to put agreements in place that will enable us to compete with China in the long run, for example. And so I found the spirit for free trade to be strong. There was five nations that said, “Well, we don't want to do it as soon as 2006.” On the other hand, I went to Brazil yesterday, and there was strong agreement in Brazil that we work together to advance the Doha round of the WTO.

The impression I came away with, which is an accurate impression is, is that there's a lot of people who recognize—by far, the vast majority of countries recognize it's in our nations' interests to advance the trade agenda.

Let's see here. Toby [Tabassum Zakaria, Reuters].

War on Terror

Q. Mr. President, there has been a bit of an international outcry over reports of secret U.S. prisons in Europe for terrorism suspects. Will you let the Red Cross have access to them? And do you agree with Vice President Cheney that the CIA should be exempt from legislation to ban torture?

President Bush. Our country is at war, and our Government has the obligation to protect the American people. The executive branch has the obligation to protect the American people; the legislative branch has the obligation to protect the American people. And we are aggressively doing that. We are finding terrorists and bringing them to justice. We are gathering information about where the terrorists may be hiding. We are trying to disrupt their plots and plans. Anything we do to that effort, to that end, in this effort, any activity we conduct, is within the law. We do not torture.

And therefore, we're working with Congress to make sure that as we go forward, we make it possible—more possible to do our job. There's an enemy that lurks and plots and plans and wants to hurt America again. And so, you bet, we'll aggressively pursue them. But we will do so under the law. And that's why you're seeing members of my administration go and brief the Congress. We want to work together in this matter. We—all of us have an obligation, and it's a solemn obligation and a solemn responsibility. And, you know, I'm confident that when people see the facts, that they'll recognize that we've—they've got more work to do and that we must protect ourselves in a way that is lawful.

Mr. President, thank you.

NOTE: The President's news conference began at 9:25 a.m. at the Casa Amarilla. In his remarks, he referred to Gov. Mitch Daniels of Indiana. President Torrijos Espino and some reporters spoke in Spanish, and their remarks were translated by an interpreter. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this news conference.

Remarks in a Discussion on Panama's Future in Panama City

November 7, 2005

I want to thank you very much. Mr. President, thank you for your invitation. I told the President earlier I was really looking forward to stopping here in Panama for a variety of reasons. First, I'm proud of the job he's done. He's fought corruption. He's been a strong fiscal steward of the people's money. This economy is growing.

Secondly, I wanted to see the Panama Canal. It's a marvel. It's a fantastic opportunity to see this great engineering feat. And at our press availability today, I said how proud I was of the people of Panama for managing this canal in such a professional way, for the good of commerce around the world.

Thirdly, I think it's very important for us always to reconfirm the importance of democracy in our hemisphere. And Panama is a strong democracy, a democracy that believes in the freedom to worship, the free-

dom to speak, the freedom of the press, the notion that everybody has got a voice. And so it's an opportunity to say thank you for those of you who are working so strong to make sure your democracy flourishes.

So Laura and I are really thrilled to be here. It's a magnificent trip. I'm sorry it's not longer. I told the President after I'm President, I'll come back and go fishing with him. [Laughter] In the meantime, thanks for having us. I'm proud to be here.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:30 a.m. at Salon Miraflores. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks at a Rally for Gubernatorial Candidate Jerry Kilgore in Richmond, Virginia

November 7, 2005

The President. Thank you all very much. Thanks for the kind introduction, Governor. We're not taking anything for granted. Laura and I are here to ask you to turn out the vote tomorrow for Jerry Kilgore as the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

I want to thank you all for coming out tonight. I remember what it's like to be right there on election eve. This man has worked his heart out. He has traveled the great Commonwealth of Virginia talking common sense to the voters, and now it's your time. He's counting on you to get out and turn out the vote and deliver a great victory on behalf of all people of Virginia by putting him in the Governor's chair.

I appreciate you coming out here to the airport. See, we were just flying in from Latin America. Decided to stop a little short of our destination. See, I know a man of character and integrity, and he's standing right next to me. And that's Jerry Kilgore.

When you find a man who's got this kind of character, it makes sense to stop short of the destination to come in and to say to the people of this State, "Put him in office, and you'll be proud of the job he'll do for you."

He's got a record. See, you can count on him. You know where he stands, and you know he can get the job done. And equally

important, you know he doesn't need to run a poll to tell him what to think.

Audience members. Jerry! Jerry! Jerry!

The President. He's got a clear agenda. That's what you want in somebody running for Governor. You got to know where they stand, not yesterday but today and tomorrow. See, you got to understand that this is a guy who thinks clearly, and when he says something, he means what he says.

And so I hope you'll work hard tomorrow to call up your friends and neighbors and tell them they have a duty in this democracy of ours to vote. And tell them if they want good government, good, solid, sound, conservative government to put this good man in the Governor's chair in Richmond.

And while you're putting in Jerry Kilgore, make sure you put in Bill Bolling to be the next Lieutenant Governor and Bob McDonnell to be the next attorney general.

You know, Laura and I are thrilled to be here with Jerry and Marty. I like a guy who loves his wife. I sure love mine. We celebrated our 28th wedding anniversary in Argentina. I told her if she married me, I'd take her to—I'd celebrate our anniversary in exotic places.

I appreciate very much Marty standing by and working in this campaign. I know how tough it is on a family, but when you believe in something, when you believe in the people of the Commonwealth, it's worth the sacrifice, and it's worth the hard work. And the Kilgore family believes in the people of this important State. I want to thank their children, Klarke and Kelsey.

I want to thank Jean Ann Bolling, Maureen McDonnell. I want to thank all the families of the candidates who are supporting the candidates. It's important to be a family unit in this kind of race, see. There's a lot of pressure. There's a lot of noise, and there's nothing better to go home to a loving family. And that's why this guy is going to be a good Governor. See, when times get hot, he's going to be able to rely on some basics in life, and that is his faith and his family to see him through.

I appreciate Congressman Eric Cantor and his wife, Diana. Thank you all for coming. I thank all the State and local officials who are here. I want to thank our political offi-

cials. I want to thank all the grassroots activists, all the people who put up the signs—all the people, all the people who have been making the phone calls. We thank you both—both of us thank you for going door to door and knocking on your neighbor's door. Keep working hard. And when you do, you'll be rewarded with a great victory tomorrow night with Jerry Kilgore as your Governor.

The thing I like about this fellow is he grew up in Virginia, and he grew up on a small farm. That means he's a down to earth person. He doesn't have a lot of fancy airs. That's the kind of guy you want to represent you, a person who understands how the common man thinks, a person who shares the values with the majority of people in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

He's on the right side of the issues too. See, it's one thing to have good character; it's a different thing to have somebody who is on the right side of the issues. See, he understands that when he is the Governor, the top priority of this State is to make sure you educate every single child, that you cannot leave any child behind if you're going to have a State that's got a hopeful future.

I appreciate his plan to retain, recruit, and reward good teachers. You can't—by the way, if there's any teachers out there, both Jerry and I thank you for teaching. You'll have a good friend in the Governor's mansion, somebody who understands the value and importance of being a teacher. And the parents will have somebody in the Governor's mansion who understands the value and importance of teaching every child to read and write and add and subtract.

I appreciate Jerry's stand on taxes. He trusts the people with their own money. See, that's a philosophical difference. Think about the campaign. If you're out there listening, think about which candidate says, "I trust you with your own money." See, he understands the difference between your money and what others call the Government's money. It's not the Government's money. It's the people's money. It's the hard-working people's money.

It's just not rhetoric; this man's got a record. He opposed the State tax increase last year. He's going to eliminate the State

death tax once and for all. He's going to eliminate the State car tax once and for all. If you want to keep your taxes low and keep your economy growing, there's only one candidate in this race who will do so, and that's Jerry Kilgore.

Audience members. Jerry! Jerry! Jerry!

The President. One of the key jobs of a Governor is to keep the people of the State safe. One of the key responsibilities is to support the law enforcement officials in your State. And he'll do that. He'll stand with the men and women who wear the uniform, who patrol your highway, who work in the neighborhood to keep the people of this Commonwealth safe. He's going to be tough on crime, and he's going to enforce all the laws—all the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

He's got a good roads plan. I, frankly, haven't had that much problem driving on the roads around here—[*Laughter*—but a lot of you have. These roads are crowded, and he's going to do something about it. He's got a plan, as he says, to get Virginia moving again. It's not only moving again when it comes to roads; it's moving forward to make sure there's a hopeful life for every single citizen in this Commonwealth.

Virginia is the home to a lot of military folks. Jerry Kilgore understands we're at war with an enemy that hates what we stand for. He'll be supportive of the families who live in this State whose loved ones are sacrificing on behalf of the American people. He'll be—he understands the nature of this struggle. He understands that our government must never let down our guard, that we have a solemn obligation to protect the American people, that we must never wait to be attacked again, that we must stay on the offense and bring people to justice before they harm the American people.

He also shares the same faith I have in the capacity of freedom to yield the peace we all want. He understands what I understand, and that is democracy is the best hope of mankind, that in the deep—in everybody's soul, regardless of their religion or where they live, is the deep desire to live in freedom. You see, freedom—freedom is not America's gift to the world; freedom is the Almighty God's gift to each man and woman in this world.

And by staying strong and confident in the capacity of freedom to transform societies, he understands we're laying the foundation of peace for generations to come. Jerry Kilgore is a man who brings deep principles and values into this race and will bring those same values into the Governor's mansion. He has a respect for life and will work hard to build a culture of life here in Virginia.

He stands on that solid ground of deep moral conviction and solid Virginia principles. And that is why I'm absolutely confident he is up for the task and will make a great Governor for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Laura and I are so grateful for this—for the welcome. Thank you all so much for coming out. I don't want to keep you too long. No, no, no. You've got a job to do. See, if I could vote, you already got my vote. You need to go out and find that undecided person. You need to find our fellow Republicans and those discerning Democrats who know a good man when they see one. Keep working hard. Turn out that vote, and you'll be proud of the next Governor of Virginia, Jerry Kilgore.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:47 p.m. at the Dominion Energy, Inc., hangar at Richmond International Airport. In his remarks, he referred to Marty Kilgore, wife of Jerry Kilgore, candidate for Virginia Governor; Jean Ann Bolling, wife of Bill Bolling, candidate for Virginia Lieutenant Governor; and Maureen McDonnell, wife of Bob McDonnell, candidate for Virginia attorney general.

Interview With Foreign Print Journalists

November 8, 2005

The President. First I'm going to make just kind of some general remarks, and then will be glad to answer some questions for a while.

First, I'm really looking forward to my trip. I'll be having meetings with the leaders of Japan, China, South Korea, and Mongolia, and then, of course, will attend the APEC meeting as well as meeting with ASEAN

countries. So this is a chance for me to continue to talk about the war on terror, the need for all of us to work to spread freedom.

I go representing the people of this country, obviously. I go to represent the workers, as I remind our partners in the Far East that trade must be not only free but fair. I go to represent the business people, in reminding people that there must be a strong focus on intellectual property rights throughout the world. I go to represent people who believe that we ought to be working together, like I believe, at the WTO, the Doha round, to advance the round, to see if we can't—I spent time doing that my recent trip in Latin America; I will continue that message of working toward a successful Doha round.

And so this will be a good opportunity to explain to our partners that a successful round in Doha will be good for our respective countries, our workers, our farmers, our business people. But it will also help us work together to alleviate poverty. So I've been really looking forward to the trip.

One other aspect of the trip that is important to me, and I know—we'll continue our dialog on avian flu, a potential pandemic, and how we can work together to detect and keep the folks informed about the possible outbreak of avian flu, how to isolate the flu—the virus, if it's detected, and what we can do together. This will be an important way to continue to advance this issue. I've spoken to the President of China about this issue, for example, and I'm going to bring it up again.

We've got a lot of issues on the table, and so this is an—this will be a chance to continue to advance those issues. Relations are strong in the Far East. U.S. relations with Japan and South Korea and China and Mongolia are excellent. We don't always agree on every issue, but they are very strong. And this is a chance to continue to advance those relationships.

And so with that, we'll start with you, Mr. Nishimura.

Japan-U.S. Alliance

Yoichi Nishimura. Thank you, sir, Mr. President. The United States and Japan recently signed a document on the transformation of U.S.-Japan alliance, and the re-

alignment of U.S. and Japanese forces in Japan. But there is a strong local opposition to some of these plans. For example, the local government in Okinawa has called this relocation of Futenma Marine Air Corps—Air Station unacceptable. Since these plans for relocation have implication for a broader transformation plan of your country, how will you overcome this local strong opposition to the implementation of the agreement, and more generally, what would you like to achieve in the Asia-Pacific region through the strengthening of the U.S.-Japan alliance?

The President. The fact that we reached an agreement on troop realignment shows the maturity of our relationship. As you know, the agreement that has been reached was done so in good faith between the U.S. Government and the Japanese Government. It's an agreement that was not easy to bring to conclusion, but yet, nevertheless, because our relationship is strong and vital, we're able to do so.

In a democracy, it's hard—first of all, it's hard to satisfy all the people all the time. And so—I'm aware that there is a discontent with the agreement expressed by the folks—some of the folks on Okinawa toward the Government—the Japanese Government that negotiated the deal. My attitude is, and my message to the good people in Okinawa is: This is a good-faith effort. We tried to reach an accord that accommodated a lot of interests. And it's a positive development.

Secondly, the relationship—it shows the—how strong we are, as an alliance, as a friendship. This has been a difficult issue, and in that it got resolved, it should be a sign to people on both sides of this issue that there is a cordial, frank, relationship that was able to deal with this sensitive subject.

U.S.-Japan relations are important for our respective countries. We're trading partners; we're partners in peace. And I want to congratulate and thank the people of Japan for helping the people of Iraq establish a democracy. We worked in strong collaboration on a variety of issues, whether it be helping Afghanistan or whether it be to tackle disease around the world.

So this is a healthy relationship, and it's good for peace, and it's good for prosperity of our peoples.

Mr. Heo.

South Korea-U.S. Relations

Yongbom Heo. Yes, Mr. President. I'd like to also ask about the relationship between United States and South Korea. Do you have any specific plans for the strengthening of the alliance, and to improve the relationship between the United States and South Korea? In that context, what do you also think of the growing anti-American sentiments in South Korea?

The President. Well, first of all, the trip will help strengthen the alliance. Any time I can sit down with a leader and discuss common opportunities and common problems, that strengthens the relationship. Secondly, we have shown the people in South Korea that we're able to, again, deal with the complex issue of military bases in a way that is thoughtful and sensitive.

As you know, we're realigning our forces and realigning our bases. The Government is a duly elected Government of the people. It tends to reflect the will—they reflect the will of the people and this relationship, and the realigning of the forces reflects the will of the people. And it's being done in a respectful way. That should strengthen the relationship.

As well, I want to congratulate the Government and thank the Government of South Korea for the support in democracy in Iraq. People there—the Government there has helped the people in Iraq see a way forward by providing security forces there. I appreciate that very much.

Ours is a very important relationship, and it is one that—one that is able to accomplish important things, such as working together to make sure that we have fair trade. And I'll bring that up, of course, with the President. We don't have a free trade agreement yet with South Korea, but nevertheless, we've got a lot of trade with South Korea, and we want it to be mutually beneficial. And the more beneficial trade is between our countries, the deeper our ties become.

I don't study public opinion polls in South Korea, so I don't know the basis for the last part of your question. But I mean, I made some difficult decisions, and I understand not everybody agrees with them. But one of

the things I hope people do agree with in South Korea is that the United States—they've got a strong friend in the United States. We've been a friend for a long period of time, and we'll remain a friend.

Mr. Wang.

China-U.S. Relations

Faen Wang. Thank you, Mr. President. You are going to visit China for a third time since 2001. As we know, the relationship between two countries have made considerable headway since you took office. Now it's your second term in office. How do you assess the relations between China and the United States at this moment? And how do you anticipate relations in the coming years?

The President. I would say my personal relationship with President Hu is very good. I would say relations between the United States is mixed—or between China and the United States is mixed. On the one hand, we have got increasing trade and dialog and cooperation. On the other hand, there is still work to be done on intellectual property rights, for example, or currency or market access.

And so ours is a complex and important relationship. And I look forward to visiting once again with the President and talking to him about these very vital issues. I was very pleased the last time we met in New York that he openly stated that we need—that China will work hard on having intellectual property rights. And this is not just an issue between the United States and China. It's really an issue that when China cracks down and enforces intellectual property rights laws, that it will be good for China's standing in the world. People really don't want to do business in a country if they think their products is going to be—if the patents will be copied.

And so I appreciate the President's strong statement on intellectual property rights, and it will be a chance to continue to talk about intellectual property rights.

I appreciate the Government's position on currency as they begin—the beginnings of a market-based currency. And that was a strong step forward. I will remind him that

this Government believes they should continue to advance toward market-based evaluation of their currency, for the sake of the world, not just for the sake of bilateral relations.

There's a—I want to tell him that there's a—that we—again, what we've discussed in the past, that there's—the trade balance between China and the United States is bothersome to people here and that we've got to address the trade balance. And one way to do so is for there to be market access for U.S. products, continued market access for U.S. products.

So we've got an important relationship, and it's a good relationship. But it's one in which I will continue to bring the—our concerns to the Chinese Government.

Another round.

China-Japan-Korea Relations

Mr. Nishimura. Okay, Mr. President, thank you. It seems the relationship between Japan and China is currently at an all-time low. We have heard criticism, concern voiced by China about Prime Minister Koizumi's recent visit to Yasukuni Shrine. This is, Mr. President, historically, a sensitive issue between the two countries. As poor relations between Japan and China have a significant impact on U.S. national interests in Asia, I suppose, what can the United States do to address the worsening relationship between the two countries—I mean, Japan and China—and how would you like to rebuild U.S., Japan and China relations as a part of your comprehensive diplomacy towards Asia?

The President. What I can do is to urge the leaders of not only China and Japan to dialog and to try to get the past behind them as we move forward but also to do the same with the South Korean leader. I think the issue that you described goes beyond just Japanese-Chinese relationships, it's probably Japanese-South Korean relationships as well. And my point is not only the Prime Minister of Japan but to the respective Presidents is that, look, I understand that there is great tension as a result of some events that took place in the past. But the United States and China—I mean, the United States and Japan at one time were sworn enemies. And now

here we are sitting down as friends. In other words, it's possible to forget the past. It's difficult, but it is possible.

So I think a useful role for me will be to paint a—talk about the future and talk about how optimistic the future can be, particularly as nations are able to work out past differences and focus on what's—and focus on the future. No question that there's tension. On the other hand, if you look at capital flows between Japan and China, there is a significant amount of investment taking place, which indicates to me that there is a possibility for the relations to improve over time. In other words, not all aspects of the relationship is negative.

Mr. Heo.

North Korea

Mr. Heo. Thank you, Mr. President.

The President. You probably were going to ask the same question, weren't you? [Laughter]

Mr. Heo. I would like to ask about North Korean issue.

The President. That's fine, but I thought you were going to ask about the shrine.

Mr. Heo. Mr. President, you have called Mr. Kim Chong-il, North Korean leader—Kim Chong-il's regime a “tyranny” and North Korea an “axis of evil.” What can you do to promote human rights and democracy in North Korea? And what kind of leadership do you expect from Kim Chong-il to exercise as the leader of North Korea?

The President. I have been—I have expressed my concerns about the treatment of men, women, and children in North Korea. I worry about a society that is going hungry. I worry about forced labor camps. And I do so—and as I do worry about that, I do so because I am, like many Americans, a compassionate—share a compassion for all peoples, regardless of where they live.

I believe a—the measure, the mark of a good leader is one that cares first and foremost about the human condition of the people that live in the country. And where there's starvation and hunger, the leader's responsibility is to address that and, if need be, call upon others to make sure that food and aid actually get into the mouths of the hungry. I believe that a humane society is

one in which people have a voice in government. And so I have talked about these values. But I've also talked about them in the context of say, Myanmar. I have warned about the undermining of those values in other parts of the world. It's a consistent message of my administration.

As you know, the main focus of the region is to adhere to the Crawford Declaration that President Jiang Zemin and I stated in Crawford, which was that there would be a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula. And now we're working to achieve that goal—working together—Japan, China, South Korea, Russia and the United States sitting down at the table with the North Koreans as a group, saying, "Here's our goal: For the sake of peace for all peoples, peoples of South Korea, people of North Korea, people in the region, let us achieve the goal of a nuclear-free Korean Peninsula—nuclear weapons-free Korean Peninsula."

And so we'll be discussing this issue, of course. I'll be discussing it with the respective leaders about how to achieve that goal. We've made some progress where we declared that it's our intention to work with the North Koreans to see to it that they dismantle their nuclear weapons programs in a verifiable fashion. And so the dialog will continue on as to how to achieve this noble goal.

Yes, sir.

Taiwan

Mr. Wang. My second question is about Taiwan. The Chinese people are determined about peaceful reunification with the motherland, but the secessionist force in Taiwan have never stopped their activities, causing a threat to peace and stability Cross Strait. What do you think the United States can do in preventing the secessionist forces in Taiwan from moving toward independence, while maintaining peace and stability in the region?

The President. Well, one thing the United States can do is be consistent in its policy in dealing with the—both China and Taiwan. And so our policy has been consistent from day one, which is one China, three communiques, that we do not support independence, and that, however, we strongly support the Taiwan Relations Act. And it's

important for parties to understand that's the position—that is the consistent position of this Government, that we also believe and are heartened when we see dialog beginning to take place between China and Taiwan. That's a positive development, and I will continue to encourage that dialog.

Mr. Nishimura.

Six-Party Talks

Mr. Nishimura. Yes, Mr. President.

The President. One more round of questions.

Mr. Nishimura. Thank you very much, sir.

The President. Then you probably have to go back to work.

Mr. Nishimura. Okay.

The President. So do I.

Mr. Nishimura. Let's move to the six-party talks again.

The President. Yes.

Mr. Nishimura. A little bit more in detail.

The President. Okay.

Mr. Nishimura. Actually, the next round of six-party talks beginning tomorrow in Beijing, so this is previous—the six-party talks. And now as of today, of course, the United States and Japan have demanded that North Korea take tangible steps to dismantle its nuclear weapons program. But North Korea, on the other hand, every day—almost every day—is insisting that the United States company provide it with light water reactors. So, Mr. President, there is obviously still a sizeable gap between North Korea's position and that of other five parties—

The President. Yes.

Mr. Nishimura. —including Japan and the United States. So, Mr. President, what would you like to see achieved during the next round, and what do you think are the most important steps in attaining those goals?

The President. Yes, thank you. Well, first of all, you're right, there's a meeting starting, I guess, this week, but it's a 3-day meeting which is really to prepare for the longer meetings, which will take place next month.

Secondly, you've assessed our position. It's not the United States' position, but our position—the five parties that are working with North Korea to achieve the goal of having a nuclear weapons-free peninsula, and that

is that—and that is that we want to see tangible results in the dismantling of a program, and at the appropriate time we'll discuss the light water reactor. That's how we interpret the agreement.

So part of the reason to go on a trip like this is to remind people about the strategy and talk it out with leaders and friends and remind them that we will stick together and hopefully achieve this noble goal. Again, it's a goal vital to all the interests of the people in the region. And it's one that I believe we can achieve by working together. And this is the—there is a certain degree of patience required when it comes to negotiating a difficult issue. And there is clearly a need for us to continue to dialog amongst ourselves, to make sure that we send a consistent message in order to achieve this goal. It's in people's interest.

It's definitely in the interest of the people in the region that there not be a nuclear weapon anywhere on the Peninsula. It's definitely in Japan's interest; I strongly believe it's in China's interest. I know it's in Russia's, and for that matter, it's in the U.S. interest. Even though we're seemingly removed, it's in our national security interest that we achieve this objective. So this is a very important subject, and I look forward to continuing to dialog with our partners in peace.

Future U.S. Role in South Korea

Mr. Heo. Thank you, Mr. President.

The President. Make this a good one, because it's your last question. *[Laughter]*

Mr. Heo. What kind of new role do you expect United States troops in Northeast Asia, including South Korea, to do in the future? And what are you going to deal with their critical issues, such as strategic flexibility of the United States forces in Korea and the transporting wartime operational control from the United States forces to Korea?

The President. The first part of your question, the role of U.S. troops is to provide stability. Obviously, there is—on the Korean Peninsula, North Korea has got troops massed on the DMZ. Part of the role and the relationship with the South Korean troops is to provide stability to the people in the Korean Peninsula.

Now, as you know, we're repositioning our troops and realigning bases, but we have done so in a way, as we've worked out with President Roh in such a way as not to diminish the capacity to provide stability. And secondly, the presence of troops helps provide regional stability.

The arrangement we have on the Korean Peninsula has worked for a long period of time. And that ought to be the operative model as we go forward.

China-U.S. Relations

Mr. Wang. China and the United States have enjoyed good cooperation in various areas, including fighting terrorism, democratic relation, and the nuclear issues of Korean Peninsula. And a shared interest between the two countries have increased over time. So what's your comment in this regard, and where do you think we could expand our cooperation further, say, in what areas?

The President. Well, first of all, we do have good cooperation. We trade a lot—that's cooperation. On the other hand, we just want to make sure—and both sides feel that it's important to have a level playing field when it comes to trade. Advancing the Doha round is an area where we can cooperate together.

The avian flu area is an area where we can cooperate together. And I did have a very good discussion with President Hu about this in New York. And I'll bring it up again, because I am concerned about a pandemic. And I'm not suggesting it's going to break out in any country; but if it were to break out anywhere in the world, it becomes an international issue. In other words, I'm not saying just because I'm talking to President Hu that I think it's going to happen in China. All I'm saying is that if it happens anywhere, China and the United States, Japan and South Korea, ASEAN countries, APEC countries, everyone is going to have to work together to identify, contain and respond to an outbreak. So this is an important area.

We work together in the war on terror. There is a variety of ways that we can continue to advance an agenda that is based upon peace. And then, again, this is a complex relationship, as I said. And it's an area, for example, where I will continue to remind

President Hu about, for example, my personal faith and the belief that people should be allowed to worship freely. And a vibrant, whole society is one that recognizes that certain freedoms are inherent and need to be part of a complete society. And he's made some very positive statements and interesting statements about different aspects of freedom.

So this is a vital relationship. China is a vast, significant, growing economy that is—using more and more energy. And here is an area where all of us can work together, and that is on how to share technologies and use technologies in such a way that we become less dependent on hydrocarbons. Certainly, Japan has an interest in this in that she imports a lot of hydrocarbons. South Korean Peninsula, same thing—or South Korea, same thing—and China. The United States uses a lot of hydrocarbons, and it's in our interest that we develop technologies so that we use less. It's in China's interest as well. So energy cooperation, the idea of discussing how to best move forward and to share technologies makes a lot of sense for our respective people and the world for that matter.

And so it's a—we've got great opportunities to work together. I'm really looking forward to going to the three countries represented here. Every time I go out to the Far East I come back appreciative of the notion of hard work and entrepreneurship and culture. So I'm looking forward to the trip. It's going to be—it'll be an important trip.

Thank you all for your time. Very good questions, appreciate it. Thank you, all.

NOTE: The interview was taped at 10:30 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House for later broadcast. In his remarks, the President referred to Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan; President Hu Jintao and former President Jiang Zemin of China; President Roh Moo-hyun of South Korea; Chairman Kim Chong-il of North Korea; and President Nambaryn Enkhbayar of Mongolia. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this interview.

Interview With Japan's NHK Television

November 8, 2005

Japan-U.S. Relations

Yoshio Nishikawa. Thank you very much. My question is on U.S.-Japan alliance coming up to your meeting with Prime Minister Koizumi next week. How would you define its significance?

The President. First, I would define the relationship as a close relationship. I think people who follow my statements here in America about foreign policy know that I admire Prime Minister Koizumi a lot and consider him a close friend. And that's an important part of having good relations.

Secondly, the relationship between Japan and the United States is an important relationship. It is important for peace, and it's important for prosperity. We're significant trading partners, and the more we trade together in a fair way, the more it's likely that there will be prosperity. And we're working together to maintain the peace. And I appreciate very much the Japanese commitment to democracy and freedom around the world.

Japan's Role in Iraq

Mr. Nishikawa. Especially the deployment of the Japanese Self-Defense Force in Iraq is, I think, a symbol of U.S.-Japan relationship. And will you be urging Prime Minister Koizumi to prolong its deployment period as the mandate expires next month?

The President. Well, I'm aware the mandate does expire. First, I do want to thank the Government and the people of Japan for supporting the democratic aspirations of the people of Iraq. That's noble, and it's important for spreading peace, because democracies don't fight. After all, look at the relationship between the United States and Japan: We're democracies, and we coexist peacefully, and we work together to keep the peace.

Secondly, I will—I think what's important is that we get past these elections in Iraq, and then coalition allies can discuss with a new Iraqi Government how to proceed forward. I have always said that as the Iraqis stand up—in other words, as the Iraqis get

more trained to secure the peace, then coalition forces and the U.S. forces will stand down.

Security and Defense Cooperation

Mr. Nishikawa. So would we allow to return to the alliance again, and in the recent two-plus-two meeting, there was important agreement for increasing cooperation on security and on defense front, such as the showing of base facilities. But within Japan there is a concern that Japan might be engulfed by the international—the United States' international strategy, and how would you respond to this concern?

The President. Well, first of all, Japan makes the decisions that the Government thinks is necessary. Japan is, of course, a sovereign nation. And we work closely to work out our defense posture in concert with what's in the best interests of not only America but with Japan.

Secondly, as you know, we've worked very closely on an arrangement to realign troops on Okinawa. That's what allies and friends do; they work through difficult problems in a way that satisfies the needs of both parties as well as what is good for regional stability, and that we would always consult with our friends, the Japanese. We would never put them in a position that ran contrary to their national interests.

China-Japan Relations

Mr. Nishikawa. Then I'd like to move on. Regional issues?

The President. Sure.

Mr. Nishikawa. First, China, which is growing dramatically—

The President. Yes. [Laughter]

Mr. Nishikawa. —in economics and military power. I see in many aspects Japan and the United States is cooperating. But Japanese relationship with China is aggravating because of Prime Minister's visit to Yasukuni Shrine. How—what do you—how do you view this visit?

The President. Well, first of all, I think the relationship between China and Japan is more complicated than just a visit to a shrine. In other words, there's a lot of Japanese capital investing in China, which is one indication of the relationship, and of course, there's

the political side, which I understand is strained right now.

And so it seems like a proper role for me is to remind our friends in the region that it takes work to overcome the past. But overcoming the past is going to be necessary to have a bright future. I remind people that the United States and Japan were sworn enemies at one time. And we worked—we've worked to overcome that, and now we're close allies. And the same is possible with other countries in the region, between Japan and those affected by World War II.

Mr. Nishikawa. And do you intend to address what you told me in your meeting with the Prime Minister?

The President. Well, if he wants to talk about it, I'd be glad to talk about it. But what's interesting about this interview is I just addressed the issue, so he probably will hear this. But the Prime Minister is a savvy man, and he is a smart man. And he knows very well that it requires work to get past old grievances. And he's—I think—I find him to be a very skilled diplomat as well.

Mr. Nishikawa. And with regards to North Korea, Japan is continuously working for a long-desired solution to Japanese abductees.

The President. Yes.

Mr. Nishikawa. And so how does the United States aim to support Japan on this issue?

The President. Well, of course, we abhor abductions. And we can understand the heartbreak of the Japanese families that—who lost a loved one, and therefore support Japan in its desire to resolve this issue. However, the main focus of our discussions—our six-party talks is to make sure that the Korean Peninsula does not have a nuclear weapon. And that's in Japan's interest as well as in the interest of the United States and, for that matter, everybody else in the region, that we succeed in these talks to get—make sure that the North Koreans hear with one voice, a voice spoken by China, South Korea, Japan, the United States, and Russia, that it is in the interest of world peace and harmony that all—that North Korea and South Korea, for that matter, does not have a nuclear weapon.

Beef Exports to Japan

Mr. Nishikawa. Lastly, it has been 2 years since Japan has banned imports of beef.

The President. Yes. [Laughter]

Mr. Nishikawa. What do you expect?

The President. Well, I understand this is a very—that the—this is a difficult issue. I'm also pleased to see that the Food Safety Commission—I think that's what it's called—

Mr. Nishikawa. Yes.

The President. —has ruled that U.S. beef is safe. Of course, our cattlemen here believe the beef is safe. I'm more than willing to eat U.S. beef, and do—eat a lot of it. And my point is, is that I hope that the Government follows through with the recommendations of the safety commission—or just decides about opening the market and listens to the safety commission, because we feel like not only our beef is safe, but it's an important part of our cattle industry to be able to sell to the Japanese consumer.

Mr. Nishikawa. So I thank you again, Mr. President—

The President. Thank you, sir.

Mr. Nishikawa. —for giving us such a kind opportunity to interview you.

The President. Well, thank you very much.

NOTE: The interview was taped at 1:18 p.m. in the Map Room at the White House for later broadcast. In his remarks, the President referred to Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this interview.

Interview With the Korean Broadcasting System

November 8, 2005

Six-Party Talks

Kwang Chool Lee. Mr. President, thank you for granting this interview with KBS, Korean Broadcasting System. Mr. President, today a new round in the six-party talks starts in Beijing. Do you have any deadline for progress in the talks and for North Korea to dismantle its nuclear program?

The President. I guess I would define my feelings this way: I think the world is watching very carefully whether or not we—that's six countries—are able to achieve a noble and

peaceful objective, which is a Korean Peninsula which does not have any nuclear weapons.

And thus far, there has been some progress, but it's been mainly talk. And my hope, of course, is that we begin to see action, results. And those results, of course, would be that there would be a verifiable dismantling of nuclear weapons and the programs required to make nuclear weapons. We will continue to work with the parties to move the process beyond rhetoric to reality.

Yasukuni Shrine

Mr. Lee. But recently the relations amongst China, Japan, and Korea are antagonized by Mr. Koizumi's visit to Yasukuni Shrine, which honors World War II criminals. Mr. President, don't you think this is an unnecessary provocation to other Asian countries tortured by these war criminals?

The President. I am aware of the friction caused by the Prime Minister of Japan's decision. I believe a useful role for me, as someone who is friendly with the three leaders involved, is to remind people that it is best to put the past behind and move forward in the future. And I understand the sentiments of the South Korean people; they're still angry about the past. And so there's a natural reaction, when they view a decision made by the Prime Minister.

I'm hopeful that people will be able to see what happened between U.S. and Japanese relations. We're close, like we're close with South Korea, and yet my dad, for example, was a fighter—a Navy fighter against the Japanese. In other words, with hard work, we can get the past behind us, and that would be my hope when I discuss this issue with the respective leaders.

South Korea-U.S. Relations

Mr. Lee. Mr. President, recently many Koreans and Americans have become anxious about the relations between our two countries. What are your expectations of Korea in this changing relations, and what does U.S. offer to Korea in this changed environment?

The President. Well, I appreciate that question. Look, I think that relations are better than some people want to say they are. As a matter of fact, I know relations between our Governments is good. We've done some—we've made some difficult decisions together and have acted together. For example, troops in Iraq—that was difficult. That was a difficult decision for your President. It was a difficult decision for me, as a matter of fact, to commit troops. And yet, we're working together to bring democracy, and therefore peace, to a troubled part of the world.

We had a base realignment issue that we worked out with the South Korean Government. That's not an easy issue, but it's a necessary issue that the Government—South Korean Government thought was necessary and I agreed was necessary. And we did so in a cordial way.

We've got a lot of trade. I mean, the trade between South Korea and the United States is substantial. There is an opportunity down the road for us to put a free trade agreement in. Both countries are going to have to work hard to make that happen. There's a lot of exchange of people back and forth between our countries.

So there's a lot of contact, a lot of commerce, and a lot of security measures we're taking together. I think the thing to do is to keep advancing the relationship and working to make it more mature so that we can work together to keep the peace.

Mr. Lee. Mr. President, you mentioned free trade. And on your recent trip to South America, you stressed the importance of free trade. Will the FTA be on the main agenda when you visit Korea?

The President. Oh, I think—I'm not sure what you mean by "main agenda," but it's certainly going to be an item we discuss. And you know, these agreements are important, but so is a more global agreement, called the Doha round of the WTO. And of course, I'll be discussing that as well, not only with President Roh but at the APEC meeting that South Korea is so kindly hosting.

Mr. Lee. Thank you, Mr. President, for sharing your views.

The President. Well, thank you very much. I'm looking forward to going back to

your beautiful country. And I want to thank the Government of South Korea and the people of South Korea for hosting me and Laura as we return.

Mr. Lee. Thank you, sir.

The President. Yes, sir.

NOTE: The interview was taped at 1:27 p.m. in the Map Room at the White House for later broadcast. In his remarks, the President referred to Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan; and President Roh Moo-hyun of South Korea. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this interview.

Interview With Phoenix Television of Hong Kong

November 8, 2005

China-U.S. Relations

Naichain Mo. Mr. President, thank you for selecting Phoenix Television for this interview. What greeting and message would you like to convey to the Chinese people prior to your visit to China?

The President. First, that the relationship between China and America is an important relationship. It's a mixed relationship. There is a lot of good that we're doing together, and there's a lot of areas where we may not have full agreement but, nevertheless, are able to discuss our disagreements in a very cordial way. And so I would tell the people of China you live in a great, massive country that's growing well and that we want to have good relations with you.

President's Upcoming Visit to China

Ms. Mo. This will be your third formal visit to China.

The President. Yes.

Ms. Mo. What do you hope to achieve with this visit?

The President. Well, first of all, the visit is giving me a chance to further get to know the leadership. President Hu is a person who I enjoy visiting with. He is a smart fellow. And the more you get to know a person, the better—the easier it is to make good policy.

Secondly, I'm going to, of course, be going to China to represent the interests of my people. I'll talk about the need for trade that is free and fair. I'll talk about the currency,

of course. I'll talk about intellectual property rights that the President and I have discussed before.

And then on the international front we'll, of course—I'll confirm my one-China, three-communiqué policy, that not only says that we do not support independence but as well, we will adhere to the Taiwan Relations Act. I think that's important for the Chinese leadership and the people of China to hear.

We've also got an agenda to fight terrorism, fight narcotrafficking, as well as to work together to convince the leader of North Korea that the Korean Peninsula should be nuclear weapons-free.

So we've got a broad agenda.

Ms. Mo. Keep you busy.

The President. It will keep us busy, but it's an important agenda and the people of China must understand that when the United States and China works together we can accomplish a lot.

Taiwan

Ms. Mo. You brought up Taiwan. I remember in 2001 and 2003 you made strong statements regarding Taiwan.

The President. Yes.

Ms. Mo. And regarding the recent development, do you feel less concern about a cross-strait situation than you were in, like, 2003?

The President. Well, I'm always concerned that one party or the other will do something unilaterally to change the status quo, which would then create, you know, a source of angst and anger. And therefore, I'm constantly reiterating my position so that both sides clearly know the position of the United States.

Ms. Mo. Are you optimistic about a peaceful resolution in the end?

The President. I have seen some—yes, I am optimistic there will be a peaceful resolution. Secondly, I am optimistic because I have seen cross-straits discussion starting to take place. And I urge the parties to continue those discussions. I believe it is possible, through discussion and good will, to end up solving this issue in a peaceful way.

China-U.S. Relations

Ms. Mo. You call U.S.-China relationship “complicated.”

The President. Yes.

Ms. Mo. And we heard U.S. officials and experts have variously called China a threat, a partner, a competitor, and an opportunity. So how do you see China, and what's your plan to deal with China's emergence?

The President. Well, that's interesting—all the different adjectives I guess kind of express a complicated relationship. I would say—I think we've got a lot of issues to deal with, is the best way to describe it. And on issues on which we agree, we can make positive contributions and change.

Issues we don't necessarily agree on, we can work through and do so in a frank way. And I repeat, I think we have a fantastic opportunity by working with China and other countries to make sure that the Korean Peninsula is nuclear weapons-free, which will lay a foundation for a peace in the region and the hemisphere, and that's important.

Ms. Mo. You brought up North Korea. What other issues do you most seek China's support and cooperation? And what do you expect them to do?

The President. Well, first of all, on the United Nations Security Council we work on every issue together. And one way for us to be able to work together is just to share opinions on different issues. For example, I'll bring up Iran. I want the President to understand how I think it's important for the free world and the peaceful world to work together to convince the Iranians not to develop a nuclear weapon.

China has got influence. China is a big, powerful nation. And therefore, it's in our interest that we share ideas and work together. I'll also want to continue discussions on the economic front, because we've got a big trade imbalance with China, but we're making progress. The Chinese took a good first step on having a market currency; I believe they ought to do more. The President made a very strong statement in New York about intellectual property rights. We've reached a textile agreement, which is a very important signal to our folks who want to make sure that the President works for fair trade. And with the trade balance as big as

it is, you know, it's important for people here in America to be able to say to themselves, "We hope it's fair." And I'm going to continue to insist on fair trade as well.

Finally, there is a couple of other areas we can work on, if you've got a second. One is energy. We consume a lot of energy. China is consuming more energy. And we need to share information and share technologies so both of us can diversify away from hydrocarbons.

President's 1975 Visit to China

Ms. Mo. My last question, in 1975 you visited China, when your father was U.S. Representative in Beijing.

The President. Yes, I did.

Ms. Mo. I know you spent your 29th birthday there—

The President. That's right. [Laughter]

Ms. Mo. —and went back a number of visit over the years. Can you share with us some of the memories that made the deepest impression on you when you think of China?

The President. I think of how different China is today than it was in 1975. In 1975—first of all, I had a fantastic experience when I went there in 1975.

Ms. Mo. Good to know.

The President. I really did. It was great. It was really interesting. The two impressions—a couple of impressions. One, everybody was on bicycles; there weren't many automobiles. I happened to be one of the people on bicycles. I rode all over the place in Beijing, which was fascinating.

Secondly, I can remember how odd people thought I looked. In other words, there wasn't much exposure to the West, and all of a sudden an American starts riding a bike amongst them, and it, frankly, surprised some people.

And thirdly, I noticed there was uniformity in dress. People wore the same style clothes. And that's changed, which means there's a market; people are beginning to express their own individual desires and somebody is meeting those desires with a product. There's high-rise buildings that are magnificent. When I went to Shanghai right after September the 11th, 2001, I was—it was mind-boggling to look at the fantastic buildings that

had been built between the airport and the old town.

So this is a country that has progressed a lot since 1975, which shows the vast potential of China. And it explains to people—it should explain to people in America why it's important for our Government to have a good working relationship—as complex as it is, but to have a good working relationship. And we do. And that's in the interest not only of our respective people but it's in the interest of the world.

Ms. Mo. Thank you, Mr. President.

The President. Thanks for coming.

Ms. Mo. I wish you a very good trip to Asia and a successful visit to China.

The President. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The interview was taped at 1:34 p.m. in the Map Room at the White House for later broadcast. In his remarks, the President referred to President Hu Jintao of China; and Chairman Kim Chong-il of North Korea. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this interview.

Interview With Eagle Television of Mongolia

November 8, 2005

President's Upcoming Visit to Mongolia

Gonchigjav Batjav. So there are many developing countries in Asia. So why did you choose to visit Mongolia at this time?

The President. First of all, I am really looking forward to going. This is going to be an exciting trip for me and Laura. Mongolia has got a certain fascination for me. I grew up in the West of the United States where there's—where we like wide-open spaces. And when you think about Mongolia, you think about a big country with a lot of space. But what's interesting about Mongolia is it's more than geography now, as far as I'm concerned. It's a people that have worked hard to become free, a democracy.

We kind of consider ourselves—and we like the slogan, "the third neighbor" of Mongolia. And so I've chosen to go there because of the spirit of the people and a leadership that shares our desire to let the—to have a government of and by and for the people.

Democratic Values

Mr. Batjav. Great. So, Mr. President, let's talk for a moment about America's foreign policy.

The President. Okay.

Mr. Batjav. Democracies change leaders every few years, so in that change often comes a change in a nation's foreign policy. So what steps has your administration taken to ensure that the foreign policy initiatives you have taken will continue to be guiding principles for the U.S. after you leave the White House?

The President. Thank you. That's a very interesting question. First of all, there are certain values that are inherent in our country that any leader will bring to the White House, the value of human rights, human dignity, freedom to worship, freedom of the press, freedom to speak your mind. And so foreign policy will have inherent in it those values.

The other thing is, is that once democracy takes hold—it's hard work to make it work, but once it takes hold, it's hard to change it. Because democracy really speaks to the people and says, "We listen to you. You're free. You can realize your dreams." And so one of the things my administration is doing is working in places where there hasn't been democracy. I think of the Palestinian territories or Iraq. We're working in places where there's a new democracy to help strengthen those democracies. Lebanon is a good example—Georgia, Ukraine. We're working with countries that have dedicated themselves to democracy but want the friendship of the United States to help them even further democracy. And Mongolia is such a case.

And so one way you leave behind a foundation that others can't undo is to give people—help people develop a form of government that just can't be unwound unless something catastrophic were to take place inside the country.

Mongolia-U.S. Relations

Mr. Batjav. Okay, great. So as part of our new relationship, Mongolia has contributed our peacekeeping troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. So in the future, if there are any military threats against Mongolia by its neighbors,

would the U.S., under your administration, also rise to our defense?

The President. That's a very good question. We're close friends. And by being friends, I think we can prevent any potential military dispute from arising. But of course we would support our friends. We certainly would—nobody anticipates over the next 3 years of my administration, any force being used against our friend. But my visit should send a signal to the people of Mongolia that you've got a friend in the United States and a friend in George W. Bush.

Democracy in Mongolia

Mr. Batjav. Great to hear it. So during your visit to Mongolia, you will be addressing the nation in a wide televised address. So our nation is experiencing a crisis of corruption.

The President. Yes.

Mr. Batjav. So you will be speaking to our leaders and our nation about the dangers that corruption poses to our democracy. Can you give us a preview about it?

The President. Well, I'm not going to give you a preview of the speech, because then people may not watch it if they get a preview, see. On the other hand, I will say on your TV screens, there should be no corruption in government, that one of the foundations of any government is the ability for the people to trust the government, itself. And a foundation of democracy and a foundation of our foreign policy and a foundation of our Millennium Challenge Account is that there be honest government.

Millennium Challenge Accounts

Mr. Batjav. Okay. The next related question is going to be to Millennium Challenge.

The President. Okay.

Mr. Batjav. So how has the issue of political corruption affected Mongolia's status for the Millennium Challenge Account?

The President. Well, we intend to move forward on the Millennium Challenge Account with Mongolia. Mongolia is a friend. On the other hand, we will insist that as a condition of the Millennium Challenge checks being written that there be honest government, that there be investment in health and education of the people, that

there be a dedication to rule of law and to the marketplace.

Democracy in Mongolia

Mr. Batjav. Okay, the last question is so important for our television. You might be aware that the Eagle Television was the first independent TV station established in Mongolia, with American Christians and Mongolians are working together to advance freedom of speech, press, and conscience in our country. So, first, how do you feel about the role of ordinary American citizens supporting this kind of work for Mongolia's democracy? And the second, what further role do you think the ordinary American citizens can play in helping to address faith and freedom in Mongolia through media?

The President. Very good question. First of all, I believe in a free media, and I believe that people ought to—and a media that is independent from government, like we have in America, is an important part of a society. In other words, government officials should not fear a free media; they ought to welcome a free media.

Listen, in my own media, I don't agree with everything that is said, but I strongly support their right to say it, just like I strongly support the right of people of faith to be involved with helping to spread this concept of freedom.

Secondly, I think investments will help the people of Mongolia. In other words, there's a way for people in America, businesses for example, to invest in Mongolia, because that means jobs and stability and a good future.

But no, listen, you'll find Americans are very compassionate people that love freedom, and they want to help people be free. And by the way, your form of government is democracy, but it ought to reflect your traditions and your great history. And I know it is.

Listen, I'm looking forward to going to your wonderful country. It's going to be a fantastic experience. I'm excited. I truly am excited to come.

Mr. Batjav. Great. Thank you, sir.

The President. Yes, very good job. Thank you.

NOTE: The interview was taped at 1:43 p.m. in the Map Room at the White House for later

broadcast. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this interview.

Remarks on South Asia Earthquake Relief Efforts

November 9, 2005

One month ago, the nation of Pakistan suffered its worst natural disaster in a century when a massive earthquake struck northeast of the capital city of Islamabad. The human toll is staggering. This disaster has taken the lives of more than 70,000 of Pakistanis. It has injured almost 70,000 more and left nearly 3 million people without their homes. In India, the earthquake killed more than a thousand people and injured over 6,000 others.

As the harsh mountain winter approaches, millions of people in these affected areas will continue to need food, water, shelter, and medical care. They will also need long-term help to get their lives and communities back on their feet. Once again, the world is called to comfort those affected by a terrible natural catastrophe. People across our country pray for the people in Southeast Asia, and people in our country are willing to help as well.

The United States is playing a leading role in the relief and recovery efforts, in cooperation with the Government of Pakistan. We've already made \$156 million available for relief and reconstruction needs. We've provided food, water, blankets, tents, and medical care. We have disaster response personnel on the ground to assess needs and offer assistance.

Our military is playing a key role as well. A Navy construction battalion is helping to clear roads and solve other engineering challenges. Our helicopters have flown over a thousand missions to deliver aid to isolated areas. And they have transported thousands of people to places where they can receive medical treatment and shelter. We've also got a military hospital now operating in Pakistan. I'm grateful to the men and women in uniform for the noble work they are doing, and they represent the best of America, the generous spirit of our country. Our Government's response to this tragedy is—should

say to the people of the world, we care when somebody else suffers.

Last month, I announced that five distinguished American business leaders would work to encourage private and corporate contributions to help those affected by the natural disasters in Southeast Asia. Jeff Immelt and Jim Kelly, Hank McKinnell and Sandy Weill are with us today, and I want to thank you all for being here. Anne Mulcahy of Xerox is not here, but she's a part of the team. I want to thank them very much for their willingness to serve, and some of them will be going over to Pakistan along with Ambassador Hughes and others to assess the situation as a part of a Presidential delegation. When they come home from Pakistan, they're going to travel our country to rally our citizens to help the victims of this disaster.

I ask all of our citizens and businesses to contribute generously to this cause. The international response to this disaster has been generous, but the needs are still great. And so I also urge other governments, peoples in other lands, to do whatever they can do to help.

In recent months, we've had our own disasters to deal with. We had the destruction on the gulf coast of our country, and I want to remind our citizens that people around the world came to help us. They offered not only money and equipment, but they offered their prayers. I know that nothing can take the grief away of those whose lives have been affected. But I also hope the people who have been affected by natural disasters know that there's a lot of people that care for them; there's a lot of people who want to help.

As families across Southeast Asia begin to rebuild their lives, we offer our sustained compassion, our prayers, and our assistance. And we offer you our assurance that America will continue to be there to help.

I want to thank you all again for being here. Thank you for coming.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:49 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Jeffrey R. Immelt, chairman and chief executive officer, General Electric Co.; James P. Kelly, former chairman and chief executive officer, United Parcel Service of America, Inc.; Henry A. "Hank" McKinnell, Jr., chairman

and chief executive officer, Pfizer, Inc.; Sanford I. "Sandy" Weill, chairman, Citigroup, Inc.; and Anne M. Mulcahy, chairman and chief executive officer, Xerox Corp. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks on Presenting the Presidential Medal of Freedom

November 9, 2005

The President. Welcome to the White House. Laura and I are so pleased that you could join us on this proud and happy occasion. It's a special honor for us to be in the company of these distinguished honorees. We welcome the honorees. We welcome their family members, and we welcome their friends.

The Presidential Medal of Freedom is America's highest civil award and is presented for meritorious achievement in public service, in science, the arts, education, athletics, business, and other fields of endeavor. The award was created through the Executive order by President John F. Kennedy and first presented here in the White House by President Lyndon B. Johnson. All who receive the Medal of Freedom can know that they have a special place in the life of our country and have earned the respect and affection of the American people.

Alan Greenspan, Ph.D., is one of the most admired and influential economists in our Nation's history. So you may be surprised to learn that Alan studied music at Juilliard. He began his career playing the saxophone and clarinet in a jazz orchestra. Even then, he showed his mathematical side—his fellow band members had him fill out their tax returns. *[Laughter]* He was on his way to a lifetime of achievement in the field of economics, from Wall Street to the White House to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

The era of Chairman Greenspan will always be known as one of phenomenal economic growth, high productivity, and unprecedented innovation and opportunity for all our citizens. He is a believer in economic freedom, open and flexible markets, and boundless human creativity. In his 18 years as Fed Chairman, he applied those principles

with consistency, with calm, and with wisdom. As he prepares to conclude his Government service, Alan Greenspan leaves behind a standard that will always define a successful Chairman, intellectual depth, analytical skill, and credibility beyond question. And he leaves the Fed with the utmost respect and thanks of his fellow citizens.

Like Chairman Greenspan, Vinton Cerf and Robert Kahn are brilliant men who found great success in their chosen field and have played an extraordinary role in the story of our time. Thirty-two years ago, Dr. Kahn, an engineer, and Dr. Cerf, a computer scientist, figured out how to transmit data between separate computer networks, and to do so quickly, effectively, and routinely. Dr. Kahn called it "internetting." By developing a common digital language for computers across networks, these two men prepared the way for a technological revolution.

The Internet is one of the greatest innovations ever launched and even now has vast potential as a force for great good. And it's source of pride to all of us—it is a source of pride to all of us that this progress was set in motion by two talented Americans. Our economy, our lives, and our world have all been enriched by the imagination and the efforts of Robert Kahn and Vinton Cerf.

Sonny Montgomery has given the United States a lifetime of service. He wore the Army uniform in World War II, earning a Bronze Star for valor in Europe, and returned to active duty to serve in the Korean war. He is a retired major general in the Mississippi National Guard and served the people of that State in public office for 40 years. In three decades as a Congressman, Sonny Montgomery was a tireless advocate for American service men and women, past and present. His forward-looking spirit helped to equip and train the finest fighting force in the world. And the Montgomery GI education bill has helped millions of veterans find opportunity in the Nation they defended.

I know from my visits to Mississippi that all you have to say is Sonny Montgomery's name, and they still cheer. Folks remember him and love him, and so do our veterans. Sonny, you're a great man. Congratulations to you.

Air Force General Richard B. Myers became Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff less than one month after the attacks of September the 11th, 2001. And he was the right man for the job. As the principal military adviser to the President during a time of grave danger to our country, Dick Myers was a source of wisdom, clear analysis, and broad vision. As Chairman, he helped design a thorough and innovative military strategy for victory in the war on terror. During his watch, America and our allies liberated more than 50 million people from tyranny. And General Myers helped set the military on a vital and necessary course of transformation so that America will be ready to confront and overcome the challenges of the future.

This fighter pilot is a model officer, deliberate, unflinching, and calm in a storm. He's respected in every branch and throughout the ranks of our Armed Forces. With his recent retirement after 40 years in uniform, the Nation returned Dick Myers in "as-is" condition to his wife, Mary Jo. *[Laughter]* He left the service with four stars on his shoulder, and his place in America history is secure. The United States of America is a stronger and safer nation for the integrity and the courage and leadership of General Richard Myers.

The conflicts of this young century demand a clear-eyed understanding of the great dramas and tragedies of the 20th century. And perhaps no scholar has studied that time with as much diligence or intellectual courage as Robert Conquest. His life began in 1917, the year of the Russian Revolution, whose evil consequences he would so thoroughly and faithfully detail in "The Great Terror" and other memorable writings. The truths he told were not always in fashion. But the cautionary lessons he taught about murderous ideologies and the men who served them will always be relevant. His books have been translated into 20 languages, and there have been times and places when those books were carefully hidden.

Today, the empire he revealed is gone forever, and the works of Robert Conquest are an enduring testament of the truth. This wise and eloquent man is greatly admired by his fellow Americans and by all who love freedom.

Paul Rusesabagina also bears witness to an evil of the 20th century. He was a hotel manager in his native Rwanda when the horror began to unfold in 1994. That hotel soon became a haven amid the carnage, with Paul, his family, and more than a thousand other men, women, and children inside the compound. Without that shelter, every one of them would have almost surely have been killed during those weeks and months of merciless terror. This good man saved them by holding off the enemy with his commanding presence, his shrewd manner of negotiating, and his incredible calm amid the crisis and chaos.

Paul has insisted, quote, "I'm not a hero. I'm simply a man who made a decision to hold on to my family, my life, and my beliefs until the end." But the world came to know the story, and people everywhere can recognize heroism. And we're so honored that Paul is with us here today.

This morning across the United States, millions of Americans started their day listening to Paul Harvey. [*Laughter*] People everywhere feel like they know the man and his wife, Angel, too. And for so many Americans, no morning, Monday through Saturday, is quite complete without "Paul Harvey News and Comment." This tireless broadcaster is up every day before the sun, writing his own scripts and ad copy for an audience tuning in to more than 1,200 radio stations and the American Forces Network.

He first went on the air in 1933, and he's been heard nationwide for 54 years. Americans like the sound of his voice. His friend Danny Thomas once said to him, "You'd better be right, because you sound like God." [*Laughter*] And over the decades we have come to recognize in that voice some of the finest qualities of our country, patriotism, the good humor, the kindness, and common sense of Americans. It's always a pleasure to listen to Paul Harvey, and it's a real joy this afternoon to honor him as well.

Carol Burnett is known not just for one voice but for many, from "Eunice" to "Scarlet O'Hara"—"Starlet O'Hara." [*Laughter*] All those who've heard it will never forget her Tarzan yell. [*Laughter*] Her variety show ran for 11 years and received 25 Emmys. An even higher tribute to the show is that mil-

lions of Americans still laugh at the memory of the sketches and characters from the "Carol Burnett Show."

True to her theatrical training at UCLA, Carol has also given unforgettable performances in serious roles. Yet, it is far more than talent that has endeared Carol Burnett to the American people. It is her goodness of heart, her sincerity, and the wonderful spirit that comes through. She spent her early years in San Antonio, Texas, where they still think of her with great affection. The same goes for the whole country. Carol Burnett is welcome in every home in America. And she's welcome here at the White House today, as we pay tribute to this noble woman.

Here at the White House, we get an interesting mix of visitors. Already today I've met with the Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense, and the Dalai Lama—and the sheriff of Mayberry. [*Laughter*] Andy Griffith first came to the people's attention with his gift for storytelling, and his own life is a mighty fine story by itself. He started out as a high school teacher, and in his amazing career, he has gained fame as an actor and received a Grammy Award for his singing. He will always be remembered for the "Andy Griffith Show" and "Matlock." Yet, he has also given powerful dramatic performances in such movies as "A Face in the Crowd."

Looking back on his Mayberry days, Andy explained the timeless appeal of the show. He said, "It was about love. Barney would set himself up for a fall, and Andy would be there to catch him." [*Laughter*] The enduring appeal of the show has always depended, and still does, on the simplicity and sweetness and rectitude of the man behind the badge. TV shows come and go, but there's only one Andy Griffith. And we thank him for being such a friendly and beloved presence in our American life.

A week ago today, the flag of the United States flew at halfstaff in memory of Rosa Parks. And in Detroit, at Mrs. Parks' funeral, worshippers heard Aretha Franklin sing "I'll Fly Away." Generations of Americans have stood in wonder at the style and voice of Aretha Franklin. One record executive put it this way: "Aretha is still the best singer in the world, bar none. She finds meanings in lyrics that the composers didn't even know

they had.” [Laughter] “She chills you, heats you, affects your soul. It’s exhilarating.” When Aretha Franklin recorded the song “Respect,” it became the number one hit in America, and she won the first of 17 Grammy Awards.

The “Queen of Soul” has been a singer all her life, thanks to the early encouragement of her mother, Barbara, and her father, the Reverend C.L. Franklin. They raised their daughter to be a woman of achievement, deep character, and a loving heart. And I know they would be filled with pride this afternoon as our Nation honors Ms. Aretha Franklin.

Frank Robinson was born in Beaumont, Texas. And though it has been awhile, we are still proud to claim this Hall of Famer as a Texan. He first achieved greatness as a member of the Cincinnati Reds nearly 50 years ago. As a Red, he was the Most Valuable Player in the National League. As an Oriole, he was the Most Valuable Player in the American League. He won the American League Triple Crown in 1966, an achievement so rare that only one player has done it since. His 586 home runs make him sixth on the alltime list. His teams won five league championships and two World Series titles. Thirty years ago, he became the first African American manager in Major League Baseball. He has been named Manager of the Year in both leagues. He serves today as the skipper for the hometown team, the Washington Nationals.

Frank Robinson is a man who leads by example. His wife, Barbara, said, “He believes in rules, and he respects the game. He reveres the game.” Baseball fans across America will tell you the feeling is returned. In the game we love, few names will ever command as much respect and esteem as the name of Frank Robinson.

Last year in Ohio, I ran into Jack Nicklaus and asked if he had any advice for my golf game. He said, “Sure. Quit.” [Laughter] The game of golf takes a rare combination of raw ability and sustained concentration. Jack Nicklaus earned the distinction as one of the greats early in his career. When he edged out Arnold Palmer at the U.S. Open in 1962, Arnie said, “Now that the big guy is out of the cage, everybody better run for cover.”

[Laughter] The Golden Bear went on to win 17 more professional majors and more than 70 PGA Tour events.

Galleries across the world have admired the intense focus and unyielding competitiveness that Jack Nicklaus brings to the game. They admire, just as much, the man himself. In every aspect of his life, Jack holds himself to a high standard. He’s a great gentleman. And for his skill, grace, and class in every circumstance, Americans will always look up to the example of Jack Nicklaus.

Only a few athletes are ever known as the greatest in their sport or in their time. But when you say, “The Greatest of All Time” is in the room, everyone knows who you mean. It’s quite a claim to make, but as Muhammad Ali once said, “It’s not bragging if you can back it up.” [Laughter] And this man backed it up. From the day he won the gold medal at the 1960 Olympic games, we all knew there was something special about this young fighter from Louisville, Kentucky. And his record of 56 and 5, including 37 knockouts and 19 successful title defenses, hardly begins to tell the story. Far into the future, fans and students of boxing will study the films, and some will even try to copy his style. But certain things defy imitation, the Ali shuffle, the lightning jabs, the total command of the ring, and above all, the sheer guts and determination he brought to every fight.

This is a man who once fought more than 10 rounds with a fractured jaw. And he fought to complete exhaustion and victory in that legendary clash of greats in Manila. The real mystery, I guess, is how he stayed so pretty. [Laughter] It probably had to do with his beautiful soul. He was a fierce fighter, and he’s a man of peace, just like Odessa and Cassius Clay, Sr., believed their son could be. Across the world, billions of people know Muhammad Ali as a brave, compassionate, and charming man, and the American people are proud to call Muhammad Ali one of our own.

Our country and our world have been improved by the lives of the men and women we honor today. And now I ask the military aide to read the citations.

[At this point, Lt. Col. John Quintas, USAF, Air Force Aide to the President, read the citations, and the President presented the medals.]

The President. Thank you all for coming. Congratulations to our winners. And now Laura and I would like to invite you to a reception here on the State Floor.

God bless you all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:36 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Lynne “Angel” Harvey, wife of Paul Harvey; and professional golfer Arnold D. Palmer.

Statement on the Terrorist Bombings in Amman, Jordan

November 9, 2005

Today’s terrorist bombings in Amman were cowardly attacks on innocent Jordanians and their guests. These barbaric acts again demonstrated the terrible cruelty of the terrorists and the great toll they take on civilized society. I send my prayers and condolences and those of the American people to the families of all those killed in these attacks and to those who were wounded. To the people of Jordan and King Abdullah, we pledge our full support in their efforts to bring the terrorists to justice. Jordan is a key ally in the war on terror and will have all assistance we can offer.

Proclamation 7960—World Freedom Day, 2005

November 9, 2005

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

On November 9, 1989, citizens of East Germany crowded the checkpoints at the Berlin Wall and forced their way to freedom. In the ensuing weeks and months, this unquenchable thirst for liberty led to the collapse of the Soviet empire and the downfall of communism in the Soviet Union. Today, most of the Central and Eastern European nations that once formed part of the Soviet

bloc are thriving democracies and allies in the cause of peace and freedom.

The fall of the Berlin Wall showed the world that the love of liberty is stronger than the will of tyranny. In this new century, free nations are again responding to a global campaign of terror with a global campaign of freedom. We are working to extend the promise of freedom in our country, to renew the values that sustain our liberty, and to spread the peace that freedom brings.

On World Freedom Day, we commemorate the fall of the Berlin Wall and the reunification of the German people. We honor the men and women who fought against communist oppression and all those who continue to fight against tyranny. We also renew our commitment to advancing liberty, democracy, and human rights.

Now, Therefore, I, George W. Bush, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 9, 2005, as World Freedom Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities and to reaffirm their dedication to freedom and democracy.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this ninth day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirtieth.

George W. Bush

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., November 14, 2005]

NOTE: This proclamation will be published in the *Federal Register* on November 15.

Notice—Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Iran

November 9, 2005

On November 14, 1979, by Executive Order 12170, the President declared a national emergency with respect to Iran pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701–1706) to deal with the unusual and extraordinary

threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States constituted by the situation in Iran. Because our relations with Iran have not yet returned to normal, and the process of implementing the January 19, 1981, agreements with Iran is still underway, the national emergency declared on November 14, 1979, must continue in effect beyond November 14, 2005. Therefore, consistent with section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)), I am continuing for 1 year this national emergency with respect to Iran.

This notice shall be published in the *Federal Register* and transmitted to the Congress.

George W. Bush

The White House,
November 9, 2005.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:40 a.m., November 9, 2005]

NOTE: This notice was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 10, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on November 10.

**Message to the Congress on
Continuation of the National
Emergency With Respect to Iran**
November 9, 2005

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. Consistent with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice to the *Federal Register* for publication, stating that the Iran emergency declared by Executive Order 12170 on November 14, 1979, is to continue in effect beyond November 14, 2005. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the *Federal Register* on November 12, 2004 (69 FR 65513).

Our relations with Iran have not yet returned to normal, and the process of imple-

menting the January 19, 1981, agreements with Iran is still underway. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared on November 14, 1979, with respect to Iran, beyond November 14, 2005.

George W. Bush

The White House,
November 9, 2005

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on November 10.

**Remarks Prior to Discussions With
President Ali Abdallah Salih of
Yemen**

November 10, 2005

President Bush. Mr. President, welcome. I'm looking forward to our discussion. I'm looking forward to our continued work together to make sure that Al Qaida and people affiliated with Al Qaida are brought to justice.

Today the world saw with horror the attacks on innocent people in Jordan by killers who defile a great religion. I spoke to King Abdullah. I expressed our Nation's deep concern and compassion for those who lost their lives and their families. The bombings should remind all of us that there is an enemy in this world that is willing to kill innocent people, willing to bomb a wedding celebration, in order to advance their cause. And for those of us who love freedom and for those of us who love—who respect every human life, no matter whether you're from the West or from your neighborhood, Mr. President, we have an obligation and a duty to remain strong, remain firm, and to bring these people to justice.

And so, Mr. President, welcome.

President Salih. Thank you, Mr. President. I am delighted to have this friend—friend, George Bush. This is probably the third meeting that we have together. And we discuss a variety of mutual issues, and our mutual objective here is the declaration of war against terrorism and extremism. We have seen it during 9/11 and after. I am here to reaffirm Yemen's position that it is clear and firm, our resolve is firm, to continue to

work with the United States and the international community in combating terror.

Since yesterday, I had the opportunity to have a variety of meetings with members of your administration. I am delighted to have the opportunity to see you and meet with you today, Mr. President. We will have a variety of issues that we will discuss, bilateral issues, as well as issues of interest to both the international community and world peace and stability.

I thank you, very much, for your hospitality and for receiving me.

President Bush. Thank you, sir.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:28 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to King Abdullah II of Jordan. President Salih spoke in Arabic, and his remarks were translated by an interpreter. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks During a Meeting With Louisiana Local Officials

November 10, 2005

The President. Mayor, thanks for coming.

Mayor C. Ray Nagin. Glad to be here.

The President. And I appreciate you sharing your thoughts and ideas with Don Powell and myself. I appreciate the Commission Chairman for coming and setting out a vision for New Orleans. And I know you've been through an awful lot of tough times, and I really appreciate your working with us to help get this city up and running so the great city of New Orleans will rise once again. As I said in my speech, Mr. Mayor, we can't imagine an America without a New Orleans.

And we've got a lot of work to do, but you're making good progress, and you're showing strong leadership. I appreciate that.

Mayor Nagin. Thank you, Mr. President.

The President. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:40 p.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Donald E. Powell, chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, who is coordinating Federal gulf coast relief efforts. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

November 5

In the morning, in Mar del Plata, Argentina, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, in the Salon Versailles at the Hermitage Hotel, he participated in plenary sessions of the Summit of the Americas.

In the afternoon, the President participated in the closing ceremony of the Summit of the Americas. Later, at the Salon Doree, he participated in a luncheon for heads of state.

Later in the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Brasilia, Brazil, arriving in the evening.

The White House announced that the President will welcome President Ali Abdallah Salih of Yemen to the White House on November 10.

November 6

In the morning, in the Blue Tree Park Hotel, the President had breakfast with Brazilian business leaders. Later, in the Porto Vittoria Reception Hall, he and Mrs. Bush greeted U.S. Embassy personnel.

In the afternoon, at Granja do Torto, the President and Mrs. Bush had lunch with President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and his wife, Marisa Leticia Lula da Silva. They then returned to the Blue Tree Park Hotel.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Panama City, Panama.

November 7

In the morning, in the Cabinet Room of the Palacio de Las Garzas, the President had a meeting with President Martin Torrijos Espino of Panama. Later, at the Corozal American Cemetery, he and Mrs. Bush participated in a wreath-laying ceremony.

Later in the morning, the President and Mrs. Bush went to the Miraflores Locks of the Panama Canal, where they toured the canal.

In the afternoon, at the Miraflores Restaurant, the President and Mrs. Bush had lunch with President Torrijos Espino and his wife, Vivian Fernandez de Torrijos. Later, they went to Ciudad del Saber, where, at Jarman Field, they participated in a baseball event with Panamanian youth and Major League Baseball players. Later, at the Auxiliary Gym of Ciudad del Saber, they greeted U.S. Embassy personnel.

Later in the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Richmond, VA, arriving in the evening. Later, they returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to nominate Janet Ann Sanderson to be Ambassador to Haiti.

The President announced his intention to appoint David Barrett Cohen as the U.S. Representative on the Pacific Community.

November 8

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing followed by a briefing on hurricane recovery efforts. Later, in the Oval Office, he participated in a photo opportunity with 2005 Nobel Prize recipients John L. Hall, Thomas C. Schelling, Roy J. Glauber, Richard R. Schrock, and Robert H. Grubbs.

In the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President accepted the Institute of Religion and Public Policy's Pope John Paul II Wellspring of Freedom Award from institute officials.

The President declared a major disaster in the Northern Mariana Islands and ordered Federal aid to supplement Commonwealth and local recovery efforts in the area struck by Typhoon Nabi on August 30 through September 1.

The President declared a major disaster in Indiana and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by a tornado and severe storms on November 6.

November 9

In the morning, the President had breakfast with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. He then had an intelligence briefing. Later, he met with Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld.

In the afternoon, in the Residence, the President and Mrs. Bush met with the Dalai Lama of Tibet.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael Joseph Copps to be Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission.

The President announced his intention to nominate Deborah Taylor Tate to be Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission.

The President announced his intention to nominate Stephen C. King to be a member of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission at the Department of Justice.

The President announced his intention to nominate Donald M. Payne, Edward Randall Royce, and Goli Ameri to be U.S. Representatives to the 60th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The President announced his intention to nominate Duane Acklie and Robert C. O'Brien to be U.S. Alternate Representatives to the 60th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The President announced his designation of the following individuals as members of a Presidential delegation to visit South Asia on November 13–15 to survey the South Asian earthquake devastation and assess relief and reconstruction needs: Karen P. Hughes (head of delegation); Jim Kelly; Anne Mulcahy; Hank McKinnell, Jr.; and Sandy Weill.

The President announced his designation of the following individuals as members of a Presidential delegation to Israel to attend events commemorating the 10th anniversary of the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, on November 14: James A. Baker III (head of delegation); Condoleezza Rice; Richard A. Jones; C. David Welch; and Elliott Abrams.

November 10

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with King Abdullah II of Jordan. He then had an intelligence briefing.

Later in the morning, in the Roosevelt Room, the President dropped by a meeting of the Federalist Society. Later, in an Oval

Office ceremony, he presented the 2005 National Medals of Arts and National Humanities Medals.

In the afternoon, in the Residence, the President had lunch with President Ali Abdallah Salih of Yemen. Later, in an Oval Office ceremony, he received diplomatic credentials from Ambassador Lee Tae Sik of South Korea.

Later in the afternoon, in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building, the President dropped by a meeting of business leaders.

Also in the afternoon, in the Oval Office, the President participated in a bill-signing ceremony for H.R. 2744, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006.

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush hosted a dinner for the 40th anniversary of the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The President declared a major disaster in Massachusetts and ordered Federal aid to supplement Commonwealth and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding on October 7–16.

The President declared a major disaster in Puerto Rico and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, flooding, landslides, and mudslides on October 9–15.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted November 7

Mark D. Acton,
of Kentucky, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Rate Commission for a term expiring October 14, 2010, vice Dana Bruce Covington, Sr., term expired.

Kristie A. Kenney,
of Virginia, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of the Philippines.

John L. Palmer,
of New York, to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund for a term of 4 years (reappointment).

John L. Palmer,
of New York, to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund for a term of 4 years (reappointment).

John L. Palmer,
of New York, to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund for a term of 4 years (reappointment).

Thomas R. Saving,
of Texas, to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund for a term of 4 years (reappointment).

Thomas R. Saving,
of Texas, to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund for a term of 4 years (reappointment).

Thomas R. Saving,
of Texas, to be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund for a term of 4 years (reappointment).

Robert Weisberg,
of Maryland, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Congo.

Submitted November 9

Michael Joseph Copps,
of Virginia, to be a member of the Federal Communications Commission for a term of 5 years from July 1, 2005, (reappointment).

Carol A. Dalton,
of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of 15 years, vice A. Noel Anketell Kramer, elevated.

Paul J. McNulty,
of Virginia, to be Deputy Attorney General, vice James B. Comey, resigned.

Janet Ann Sanderson,
of Arizona, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Haiti.

Deborah Taylor Tate,
of Tennessee, to be a member of the Federal Communications Commission for the remainder of the term expiring June 30, 2007, vice Michael K. Powell, resigned.

Submitted November 10

Samuel A. Alito, Jr.,
of New Jersey, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, vice Sandra Day O'Connor, retiring.

Duane Acklie,
of Nebraska, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the 60th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Goli Ameri,
of Oregon, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the 60th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Robert C. Cresanti,
of Texas, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Technology, vice Phillip Bond, resigned.

Uttam Dhillon,
of California, to be Director of the Office of Counternarcotics Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security (new position).

Leo Maury Gordon,
of New Jersey, to be a Judge of the U.S. Court of International Trade, vice Thomas J. Aquilino, Jr., retired.

Stephen C. King,
of New York, to be a member of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission of the United States for the term expiring September 30, 2008, vice Jeremy H. G. Ibrahim, term expired.

Robert C. O'Brien,
of California, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the 60th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Donald M. Payne,
of New Jersey, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the 60th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Edward Randall Royce,
of California, to be a Representative of the United States of America to the 60th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

David M. Spooner,
of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce, vice James J. Jochum, resigned.

**Checklist
of White House Press Releases**

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released November 5

Transcript of a press gaggle by National Security Adviser Stephen J. Hadley on the Summit of the Americas

Statement by the Press Secretary: Visit by Yemeni President Salih

Fact sheet: Accomplishments at the Fourth Summit of the Americas

Released November 6

Transcript of a press gaggle by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Transcript of remarks by the First Lady in a roundtable discussion with Brazilian teachers

Released November 8

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Indiana

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to the Northern Mariana Islands

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed H.R. 1409

Announcement of the National Medal of Arts recipients and National Humanities Medal recipients for 2005

Released November 9

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Scott McClellan

Statement by the Press Secretary: Explosions in Amman, Jordan

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing the designation of a Presidential delegation to survey the South Asian earthquake devastation and assess relief and reconstruction needs

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing the designation of a Presidential delegation to Israel to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin

Statement by the Press Secretary announcing that the President signed S. 172

Text of the citations for recipients of the 2005 Presidential Medal of Freedom

Released November 10

Transcript of a press briefing by National Security Adviser Stephen J. Hadley on the President's upcoming visit to Asia

Statement by the Press Secretary: A Call for the Unconditional Release of Kamal Labwani in Syria

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Massachusetts

Statement by the Press Secretary on disaster assistance to Puerto Rico

Fact sheet: Honoring America's Veterans

**Acts Approved
by the President**

Approved November 8

H.R. 1409 / Public Law 109–95
Assistance for Orphans and Other Vulnerable Children in Developing Countries Act of 2005

Approved November 9

S. 172 / Public Law 109–96
To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for the regulation of all contact lenses as medical devices, and for other purposes

Approved November 10

H.R. 2744 / Public Law 109–97
Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006